THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL.

A LARGE SHEET CONTAINING ALL THE CURRENT NEWS, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE, AND VALUABLE READING FOR THE FAMILY.

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COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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WEST VIRGINIA.

Its Rich Agricultural and Mineral Resources—The Report of Prof Daddow—Navigable Streams—The Undeveloped Wealth—The Price of Coal—Small Boats—The New Capital, &c., &c.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

CHARLESTON, KANAWHA C. H., }
WEST VIRGINIA, July 20, 1870. }

There appears to be so little known of West Virginia, or what is worse, so little attention devoted to it, that I propose taking advantage of your columns, to offer a short sketch of its resources and advantages.

I am writing from one of the most beautiful and one of the richest agricultural and mineral regions in the United States, yet for all the attention paid to our undeveloped State, we might be as far away as Alaska, and Charleston situated in no more inviting region than is Sitka. Nature has here stored vast treasures of iron and coal and salt and lumber. Capital alone is needed to take advantage of this wealth. Capital to develop our coal mines; capital to develop our stores of iron; capital to cut down our forests of pine and oak and poplar; capital to bring to light our reservoir of oil and salt water.

As the last important, I shall here only touch on the one article of coal, reserving for two future letters: First, iron and lumber; second, salt, oil, agricultural advantages, real estate generally and the capital city of Charleston in particular.

That you may not suppose I speak merely on the authority of private opinion, I will first give one or two quotations from Prof. Daddow's book on the "Coal, Iron and Oil" of the United States. Prof Daddow made a thorough geological exploration of this country, and as a gentleman connected with coal mining interests in Eastern Pennsylvania, as a capable and experienced civil engineer, he should carry weight. His book is dated 1865.

The Great Kanawha river, running off at right angles from the Ohio, traverses the richest portions of the Allegheny coal fields, cutting clear through the coal measures (2,000 feet thick—to their base, and developing their exhaustless mineral treasures in the most available manner for practical production. Indeed, in performing this most acceptable service to the future prosperity of the West, it renders the Great Kanawha river navigable, by dividing the otherwise impassable Appalachian chain at right angles, and taking the line of least resistance to the waters of the East, thus opening the most available route from the great rivers of the West to the seaboard, and developing the minerals of the richest geological formations—the iron, lead, copper and salt which lie in close proximity.

"The Kanawha region is still undeveloped. In another portion of our country, North or South, the capital and labor which now invites labor, enterprise and capital that is now presented by the Great Kanawha Valley, with its only its unlimited mineral resources invite attention, but the best portion of the trade of the great undeveloped Valley of the Ohio, would render the locking and damming of the river, a question, to the public mind, of doubtful advantage. Yet there are three places on the river where the chutes are now built, which the Company are required by their charter to keep at least five feet of water at the lowest stage. For more than three years the packets to Charleston were compelled to lighten their freight water or ice, and I have heard a steamboat pilot remark that when there was water enough on the Ohio at Point Pleasant to run packets, there was always a sufficiency in the Kanawha. Excepting the three chutes just above mentioned, the river lies in pools of great depth —for instance, from the chute below Charleston for fifteen miles up the river, the water in the channel does not run less than from ten to fifteen feet. Should locks and dams (for the construction of which a charter has been granted by the Legislature) be raised below each chute, a navigable stream of ten feet would possess a channel, *containing throughout a length of eighty miles, not less at the lowest than ten feet of water.*

"Contrasting such a stage of water with that in the Monongahela and the Ohio between Pittsburgh and Wheeling; remembering that the Kanawha is two hundred miles nearer Cincinnati than the Monongahela—that the coal in the Kanawha is to the full as accessible, superior to that on the Monongahela—the inferiority in regard to the coal trade is very plain.

"No bridge abutments obstruct the Kanawha, and I have been informed by the manager of the Coalburgh Coal Company (a company that ships from twelve to fifteen hundred thousand bushels per annum,) that during ten years he has never lost a boat.

"I have not space here to speak of the finest beds of coal—whether on the Kanawha above Charleston, on Coal river or on the undeveloped Elk river, but shall pass at once to the prices of land.

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However, outsiders are bringing their capital daily where they can so advantageously invest, and we may look forward to rapidly recovering from our flip Van Winkle sleep. Nor can coal men or capitalists find better investments. As an ancient F. F. V. remarked to a friend of mine, when examining his coal, said he: "There's two more *strodgeons* up above. Why, if you'd buy this here coal, you'd become a millionaire."

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How the Masses View the Reform Movement—A Proper Explanation of Our Objects Only Necessary to Secure Popular Support—Great Activity of the Ring Men.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

I have just returned from a tour of business among the towns on the Monongahela river. Owing to the heavy rains and consequent high stage of water, I was detained at Brownsville over two days, and as an ancient F. F. V. remarked to a friend of mine, when examining his coal, said he: "There's two more *strodgeons* up above. Why, if you'd buy this here coal, you'd become a millionaire."

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They need not tell us what party to side with, We are not blind; but let them look out for their hats—their pockets will be safe, and they will be at the polls, and will vote the right ticket.

Now to the cliques and political rings, tricksters and office-seekers, and up with good, honest, true men, says one who is a

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From the geological report we may clearly see the advantages of the valley as regards mineral wealth. It now remains for us to examine the facilities for transportation, and first those provided by nature.

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SENATOR GRAHAM.

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I see from the letter addressed to you by Senator Graham that this gentleman takes great credit to himself for his vote at the last session against a bill which proposed to take from the sinking Fund the sum of nine and one-half millions of dollars for the benefit of sundry corporations therein named.

What is this vote, however, was one which, in my humble judgment, his clear constitutional duty and his oath of office alike required him to give, I am informed by a gentleman who was present at the time that he not only voted, but did even actually *move* to dispense with the rule which forbids the reading of a bill twice on the same day, so as to *expedite*, as far as was in his power, the passage of the same bill, at a period of the session when it was all important to its success that it should remain in the hands of the Governor without any delay.

Among the objections urged in the *Gazette* against this scheme of wholesale robbery, as characterized by itself, was the charge that it was the result of a fraudulent conspiracy against the Treasury, regularly preconcerted, and *set up* in advance, of which the *indecent precipitation* with which it was hurried through both the Houses, was taken as the evidence.

If the charge against Senator Graham that he did help the bill in question in the way referred to, and at a stage so critical, is true, it would seem to follow that he was a party to the arrangement, if any such was made, and that although ostensibly opposing the bill, he was really in favor of its purpose, and would have voted for it, if necessary.

Inasmuch, therefore, as the same Mr. Graham, not satisfied with having enjoyed the patronage of the *Ring* for the last twelve or fifteen years—first in the office of Sheriff, no less than *three* times subsequently in the almost equally profitable one of County Commissioner, is now advertising himself as a candidate for Congress even before the time for laying down his robes as a senator, and very modestly asking the great unusual privilege of holding both these offices at the same time; I would like to know as a voter, whether it is true that he did not materially assist the passage of the bill referred to, which, I am convinced was right, and he found it a pauseful struggle to oppose. If he did so vote, the only difference between himself and those of his colleagues who risked their political standing at home by the open support of a measure so obnoxious to the people is that they voted *bravely*, at least, while he, whose superior talents under an eight years' training had already served him so well in the art of political success which he professed to favor, was endeavoring to accomplish the same object by a dodge which would enable him to come home and say his hands were *clean*. The people have not forgotten this, but this new Career who has grown so great as to feel warranted in talking so patronizingly of the "*humble and obscure*" beginings of others. Senator Graham is probably safe for a season *safely of course* if it is not true, or withdraw his claim to continued public co-fidence on the ground that he did really *in good faith* do all he could to defeat the passage of the infamous steal, a bill, so deeply affecting the interests of the State, which "*he tried* to think *was* right but he could not be *convinced*" to be so and therefore voted against it.

If it had been a mere question of borrowing a set of resolutions from the pen of a Democratic lawyer, which he proposed to palm off on his constituents as his own, and was simple enough to suppose that they would not find it out from *him*, the people might, perhaps, have passed it over, notwithstanding its obvious bearing upon the question of his fitness to perform the duties of Congressman. They might possibly even have waived the objection that it was but giving Mr. Cameron another vote in the House, if not in the Senate. But in a matter that touches so deeply the interests of the people as the bill in question, it remains to be seen whether they are right on the 2d of October next in allowing him to step on the armor and go at it without any useless delay. If we do this there never was a time when we were more likely to do it. Let the around the COMMERCIAL office on the evening of the election be crowded, and the returning hack to the place from whence it was started, ins-tead all over with "Victory! Victory!" So mote it be.

TRUE REPUBLICANISM.

The Workingmen in Sympathy with the Reform Movement—Down with the Cliques and Rings.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

PITTSBURGH, Pa., July 22, 1870.

Much has been said lately about the "Third Party" movement, and boasts made by some enthusiastic friends that it is a fixed fact, and the working class could not be hired to vote such a ticket. If these persons who have so much time to preach political sermons through corners, when during the late attacking Mr. Carnahan for being a good, honest, upright Republican, were to come down a peg or two from their lofty eminence, and mingle with the people on our workshops and buildings, and mills and factories, they would find that they were not the people at all, and that the masses of the sound God nearly all working men would vote for the Republican ticket if no other party was instated. I speak for the mass of workingmen when I say that we do not want any party to step in with their only vote but use their influence, also to secure the election of our candidates. Every party must have a platform in order of success on our part. But wait. Next October or November will turn out, and we will elect our whole ticket by a large majority.

They need not tell us what party to side with, We are not blind; but let them look out for their hats—their pockets will be safe, and they will be at the polls, and will vote the right ticket.

Now to the cliques and political rings, tricksters and office-seekers, and up with good, honest, true men, says one who is a

MECHANIC.

HON. JAS. L. GRAHAM.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Allow a quiet reader to congratulate you on your success in the art of photography, for certainly a more truthful likeness never was taken of Hon. James L. Graham, which you produced in yesterday's COMMERCIAL of the Hon. James L. Graham. Mr. Graham's moral and political professions in favor of the people have all been in the right direction, and his votes have as uniformly been in favor of special legislation and the increase of taxation. Let Mr. Graham or his friends point to any one act of his in favor of the people, or in the interest of a ring that he ever heartily opposed. While he has held the position of Senator and Representative from Allegheny, or the County House, ever send a delegation to Harrisburg (a committee of ways and means excepted) to solicit the passage of street grading or paving or sewer making, or commissioners' books to contain pub lic funds, or city parks or city hall, or treasury schemes (not excepting the present one), that ever succeed under his auspices? When did he ever set up his voice in favor of the people's rights against corrupt combinations? How is it that his index job received his approving vote, for which the tattered people are now trodden constituents about it. How is it that when Mr. Horton presents a petition to the county commissioners for the removal of nuisances in the City Treasury, heretofore formed exceptions as to expenses for a year in lieu of direct taxation, that the commissioners have divided up into pools and each pool carefully helped to lay out the money, and Mr. Graham's name is known to be got at. Mr Graham's most recent as to the county commissioners, is a gentleman one of our political tools. He has been found wanting. The rings have run him by a large majority, and he has been found interests long enough; the people have taken it into their heads to try to have some legislation in their favor hereafter.

PERU is constructing three great railroads to connect with her ocean commerce. The first, east of the Andes. The one from the coast to Arequipa and across the Andes to Puno, and thence to Lake Titicaca, on the dividing line between Peru and Bolivia, is grading rapidly. Seventy miles have been finished between Arequipa and the coast, traversed by powerful engines with construction trains. There are at those and intermediate points on the line 2,000 families of the mountainous ground are tremendous, but they have no difficulty in carrying on daily excursions. Many of the huge cuttings and embankments have called out the highest kind of engineering skill. The road passes through the ancient city of Arequipa, founded by Pizarro, away up in a vale of the Andes, will be a direct communication by rail with Europe, from the older and more developed centers, with this advantage over open to the Kanawha region—that a month's sea voyage (this route is actually to be finished before 1875) will give the every-day access, and far more favorable avenues of trade now open from that East to the West. This to, therefore, the commercial and manufacturing interests of the city of West Virginia, but of the great Allegheny coal field." And this will secure a large share of free enterprise and energy, Charleston would long ago have been a formidable rival to Pittsburgh.

"Looking to the natural results of location and overall swelling, as well as the magnificent region to open to free labor and capital for its development, we may anticipate for Charleston the equity of the Nashville of twenty years distant day, or what may be better, the metropolis of the mining and manufacturing interests of the West."

Charleston is already the State capital; the Governor has taken up his quarters here, and by the 1st of August the Legislature, with its capitol, now under construction, is expected to be finished.

"The coals of this region generally are bituminous, of the best quality, suitable for all the requirements of trade and manufactures than the coals of any other portion of the Allegheny coal field. The seams of coal are more numerous, and their thickness greater than in any portion of this coal field. Hence it can be mined cheaper and with more economy, generally under the same circumstances, than any other region in this country without exception. The valley of the Ohio and the great West and the Mississippi valleys are open for many years to competition to the trade of the Kanawha coal, and must, therefore, continue to command two hundred miles nearer Cincinnati than Pittsburgh, and, in addition, while the Ohio to Pittsburgh is frequently closed by ice in the winter and low water in the summer months, the Kanawha and the great and rapidly increasing trade of the West will be secured to the coal fields on the banks of the Kanawha Valley, *with much economy in time and transportation power.*

From the geological report we may clearly see the advantages of the valley as regards mineral wealth. It now remains for us to examine the facilities for transportation, and first those provided by nature.

Rising in the mountains of North Carolina, the Great Kanawha flows north, through a region greatly resembling the slater valley of the Monongahela, for more than two hundred miles, and empties at Point Pleasant into the Ohio. It does not bear throughout its course the name of the Great Kanawha, the "New river" being the name of the largest and most easterly affluent of the Kanawha, and the junction of the "New" and "Gauley" rivers, ninety miles from its mouth. A few miles below this point navigation begins, and is continued uninterrupted to the Ohio. Three large rivers add their waters to the Kanawha as it flows north. At Charleston, sixty miles from the Ohio, it receives the waters of the Elk, a large mineral region near Charleston, and the Monongahela, and capable of a slack-water navigation for more than sixty miles. Twenty miles below, the Coal river empties into the Kanawha as the "Kanawha coal-road," emphatically, "Kanawha City." The Coal river possesses eight locks on its waters, the ninth being in process of construction. Far into the Pocatalkin, which is received, a little from thence to the month of the Kanawha is equal to that outside in the Ohio. The Kanawha itself, does not possess a slack water navigation, the depth of water in many portions would render the locking and damming of the river, a question, to the public mind, of doubtful advantage. Yet there are three places on the river where chutes are now built, which the Company are required by their charter to keep at least five feet of water at the lowest stage. For more than three years the packets to Charleston were compelled to lighten their freight water or ice, and I have heard a steamboat pilot remark that when there was water enough on the Ohio at Point Pleasant to run packets, there was always a sufficiency in the Kanawha. Excepting the three chutes just above mentioned, the river lies in pools of great depth —for instance, from the chute below Charleston for fifteen miles up the river, the water in the channel does not run less than from ten to fifteen feet. Should locks and dams (for the construction of which a charter has been granted by the Legislature) be raised below each chute, a navigable stream of ten feet would possess a channel, *containing throughout a length of eighty miles, not less at the lowest than ten feet of water.*

Contrasting such a stage of water with that in the Monongahela and the Ohio between Pittsburgh and Wheeling; remembering that the Kanawha is two hundred miles nearer Cincinnati than the Monongahela—that the coal in the Kanawha is to the full as accessible, superior to that on the Monongahela—the inferiority in regard to the coal trade is very plain.

No bridge abutments obstruct the Kanawha, and I have been informed by the manager of the Coalburgh Coal Company (a company that ships from twelve to fifteen hundred thousand bushels per annum,) that during ten years he has never lost a boat.

I have not space here to speak of the finest beds of coal—whether on the Kanawha above Charleston, on Coal river or on the undeveloped Elk river, but shall pass at once to the prices of land.

First, however, let me notice the Monongahela, comparison with which has already been made. Twenty years ago the Monongahela was as undeveloped as the Kanawha now is, and near lands

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1870.

REPUBLICAN TICKET.

CONGRESS, TWELFTH DISTRICT,
Major W. M. FREW, Pittsburgh.

CONGRESS, THIRTEENTH DISTRICT,
FELIX R. BRUNOT, Allegheny.

ALEXANDER GORDON, Wilkins.

ASSEMBLY,
ALEXANDER NIMICK, Allegheny.
RICHARD C. GRAY, Allegheny.
JOSEPH NEELD, Allegheny.
F. A. HUTCHINSON, South Fayette.
THOMAS PENNEY, McKeesport.
DAVID N. WHITE, Sewickley.

COMMISSIONER,
WILLIAM A. SHAW, Wilkins.

PROTHONOTARY,
GEORGE NEELD, Lower St. Clair.

TREASURER,
JAMES MILLER, Allegheny.

JURY COMMISSIONERS,
AARON FLOYD, Pittsburgh.

DIRECTOR OF THE POOR,
MINAS TINDLE, Kilbuck.

We have it on reliable authority, that SIMON CAMERON takes the deepest interest in the politics of Allegheny county at present, and that he has directed the Ring, in his service here, *to throw the county into the hands of the Democrats rather than have the Reform ticket elected.* In other words, the CAMERON instruction is: PERMIT NO REPUBLICAN TO BE SENT TO CONGRESS OR THE LEGISLATURE THAT IS NOT A CAMERON MAN. Hence the tenacity with which the Ring, under the leadership of the servants of CAMERON, hold out against the Republican movement. It is for this reason a second ticket is to be brought into the field. Over and over have we asked why this should be done, and no answer has been forthcoming. The real motive the Ring dare not avow. It would be fatal to them to do it. But it has transpired that the reason is that *Cameron has issued his edict that no Republican for Congress or the Legislature not a trusted Cameron man shall be elected from Allegheny this fall.*

Republicans of Allegheny! to what base uses have you come at last? Your organization is in the hands of the greatest political corruptionist the country has produced, and you, your party, its principles, all, are to be sacrificed to further his interest and maintain his power!

WHISTLING IN THE GRAVEYARD.

Ever since the Reform Movement took shape, the "organ" has as often as every other day informed its readers that it was very dead—and not of the least account. Yesterday we had this announcement repeated, and with increased earnestness. The earnestness of the "organ," in fact, is so marked as to convince the reader that it is only saying what it wishes was a fact, and that it knows what it utters is the furthest possible from the truth. For a Party that never had any life, the Reform Party has certainly accomplished much—more probably than any that was ever known. First, as the result of the movement, the old hacks have scattered. The "scalawag" candidates are candidates no more. It has broken every "slate," and compelled the ringleaders to abandon their pet plans as well as candidates. They dare not make the nominations they had agreed on. When before have they ever been heard declaring that the "very best men" must be put forward; and what party has wrought this wonderful change but the Reform party? The infamous "marking" system they have been forced to abandon, and promises of reform on their part are as thick as blackberries. Instance the following from the "organ" itself:

> "There is one thing the people want and will have *a straight* one, namely very core for candidates in Conventions, and this action of the people will be effective. "It is time the Republican party was awakening up. The Conventions of last year were a disgrace to any party, based on honest principles. The nomination of candidates, and voting up of candidates by the use of secretaries, even if it by had to adjourn to a private room to cast up the votes." "As Republicans we won't see more of this. We will not submit to it. Let every honest county system, but let us this year try a manly vote once vote, and that may remedy all the evils we have had to bear. No, not by a long shot; we are determined to vote out square for his man, and if it takes two days let us all strive to nominate good men."

Having brought the Ring to make these concessions to popular sentiment, the Reform Party might, with perfect credit to itself, rest for a time from its labors. But it neither has done, nor does it intend to do, anything of the kind. Its mission, much as has been done, is not half accomplished. The offices must be filled with capable men of integrity. To make sure of this, the Reform Party have nominated a ticket of true and good men. Having conceded the correctness of the aims and objects of the movement, the Ring will next concur in the manner of accomplishing them. If in less than twenty days the Ring were forced to admit the former, there is time enough for public opinion to compel them to do the latter.

Reform is ever aggressive and progressive. No Reform Movement ever made so much progress, or accomplished so much in so short a time as this. And it will go on. It is every day making headway among the people, who can see no reason—as the "organ" can invent none—why a second Republican ticket should be brought out, to rend the party and endanger its success. All the stories about the Republican candidates declining are sheer inventions—coined falsehoods—put forth without a shadow of truth, excepting the case of D. N. WHITE, who while declining to separate himself from the Ring, *approves warmly of the Reform Platform as every particular but one*, and on that single point the "organ" itself is at variance with him.

Not only has the Reform Movement driven the Ring to break their "slate," abandon their plans and compelled them, by professions, at least, to come upon Reform ground, but it has forced JAMES L. GRAHAM from the Congressional contest in the Twenty-third District. On behalf of that gentleman an evening paper, which has been pressed into his service, makes the announcement that MR. GRAHAM has, "written a letter," "declining to be a candidate." It is a significant fact that several other gentlemen have received similar "revelations," and, like MR. GRAHAM, wisely reconsidered what they supposed was a well settled purpose of being candidates.

A party that has been able to accomplish all this in so short a time has given proof of its great strength with the people. The Reform Movement was strong at the beginning. It has been growing stronger every day, and is sure to triumph in the future as it has triumphed in everything it has undertaken. The facts prove that the Ring and their "organ" are doing their best to do some tall whistling while passing through the graveyard!

IS IT A WAR OF RELIGION?

A subject of some interest in connection with the great Franco-Prussian conflict is the probable relation of its issue to the antagonism between Popery and Protestantism. With which of the belligerents are we, as Protestants, called upon to sympathize? which of them is entitled to the moral support of all who desire the overthrow of Popery as a system antagonistic to human freedom and progress? These questions we know are asked by many who feel an earnest practical interest in their solution—and quite apart from ethical considerations or concern, the religious aspects of the war seem a natural and legitimate subject of speculation. In the present stage of the conflict, however, the subject must be admitted to be involved in considerable obscurity. Many, from the mere facts that Prussia is a Protestant and France a Catholic power, at once conclude that the triumph of either must include the triumph of the religion it represents. Whatever foundation there may be for the anticipation, probably many of those who entertain it, look for a change in the religious condition of Europe, which is not likely to be accomplished in the manner supposed.

It does not appear that religion was pressent as the slightest element in the controversy which culminated in the war. If it is involved at all, it can be only incidentally as one of the many human interests which cannot fail to be affected by every great national convulsion. A few years ago a good deal was said about a union of the nations of Latin origin, a sort of Pan-Latin confederation with Catholicism as its faith, by which the rest of Christendom was to be dominated and overshadowed. The plan, however, was a mere figment of a few theorists or dreamers, and there is no reason to believe that it ever had any influence on French policy. The notion may be safely dismissed as not pertaining to the conflict between France and Prussia.

A glance at the attitude of each of these countries respectively towards the Church of Rome will show how untenable is the notion that the present is, in any sense, a religious war or a contest for ascendency between Protestantism and Catholicism. It is only in the form of Popery or ultramontanism that Catholicism is abhorred and denounced by the educated Protestants of Germany. In Prussia the members of the two confessions get on pleasantly together, and this is, upon the whole, equally true of other parts of Germany. Through the solving and reconciling influences of German scientific culture, Protestant and Catholic divines are placed upon ground on which they stand with mutual respect and in a sort of harmony. Hence as Dr. K. R. HAGENBACH, the distinguished Protestant Professor has remarked, a scientifically educated German Catholic can agree on certain fundamental Christian doctrines with a German Protestant much more easily than a German Protestant can agree with a French or English brother of the faith. "At the same breasts of German philosophy," says Dr. H., "the Catholic and the Protestant have lain as twin brothers, though each has assimilated the derived nourishment in his own way." Hence at the present day, partly as the result of such culture and partly in union against rationalism, the enemy of both, the Catholic and the Protestant of Germany recognize eagerly their points of agreement and bear no ill will towards, or distrust of each other. As the consequence of reaction, ultramontanism with its Jesuitry was once strong in Germany. But it is not so now. It has been growing weaker every year, and one cause of its decline has been its effect in preventing harmony between the Catholic and the Protestant confessions which is so eagerly desired by both rulers and people. Under Prussian rule, especially since the initiation of BISMARCK'S policy of centralization, measures of peculiar liberality towards the Catholic subjects of King WILLIAM are in force. And it is well known that one chief ground of BISMARCK'S hostility to the proclamation of the infallibility dogma was its evident tendency to counteract and neutralize his scheme of comprehension. However, in spite of his disapproval of the dogma, he has shown no liberality toward the Catholics under Prussian sway that the Pope is understood to sympathize with Prussia in the existing war. In Austrian Germany also, Ultramontanism will probably perish under the dissatisfaction produced by the act of the Council, and wherever the German language is spoken, Catholics and Protestants will get on together without jar or trouble, under a wise system of governmental toleration. Interference from Rome has been the cause of disturbance hitherto. Hence, on the Prussian side, there is nothing to combine the contestants in a religious interest against their antagonists. We must remember, also, that the Prussian host is largely composed of Catholics.

Equally improbable is it that the French have any religious purpose to accomplish by the war. For centuries the ecclesiastics of France maintained the liberties of the Gallican church against the encroachments and pretensions of Rome with a firmness of bearing and a power of argument never surpassed. And in as far as France is Catholic to-day, it is hostile to Ultramontanism—that is, the ablest French prelates and nearly all intelligent Catholic laymen are hostile to the asserted authority of the church beyond the mountains, hostile to Jesuitry, and hostile, of course, to any such armed propagation or advance of the faith, as some foolishly suppose to be the end of the present war. But this suspicion appears peculiarly absurd in view of the prevalent religious opinions of the male population of France. Infidelity is known to be very common. LOUIS NAPOLEON him self is probably a free-thinker, while a large proportion of his army are supposed to be either indifferent or skeptical on the subject of religion. Such views influence no crusaders; such people are not likely to become the armed propagandists of a faith.

BIBLE REVISION.

LONDON, JUNE, 1870.

The revision of the Scriptures, for authorized Hebrew and Greek scholars, is now continued. The Bishop of Winchester brought the Revised Version of the Book of Job to that stage which enabled the Committee to ascertain the exact number of sheets which would be required for the present purpose, of which one part should be manufactured in England, and the other in America. The Bishop of Winchester is one of the Professors of Sacred Literature in Queen's College, Birmingham, and Professor Fairbairn, of Leeds, Professor Kay, of Lincoln College, Oxford, Professor Lightfoot, of Cambridge, Professor Roberts, of Queen's College, Belfast, and Dr. Davies, of Regent's Park College, Baptist, Professor Selwyn, of Christ's College, Cambridge, eminent for research and for his lectures on the respective branches of learning.

These gentlemen, with a number of other eminent scholars, who had been invited to take part in this great work, met at the Jerusalem Chamber, Westminster, upon the request made by request to the Archbishop of Canterbury, by a number of Nonconformist ministers, that an opportunity was offered for Dr. Temple, whose health unfortunately prevented his attendance, to meet them in such an understanding.

The Archbishop of England, as represented by Dr. Stanley, Dean of Westminster, had sent our Dr. Schaff, to the Lord's Supper at Westminster Abbey, but the Archbishop of Canterbury, who desired it. This was deliberately put as a "motion," and not an "invitation," which would have been objected to by many. Although not a scheme for a reformation of doctrine, in order to bring the Church of England into harmony with the Nonconformists, this might be brought to bear on Nonconformists, who would be willing to meet the Church.

After the communion, in Henry VII.'s chapel, the company of scholars, bishops and others, met in the Jerusalem Chamber, there to begin their task, which has been arranged in the following manner, as published in the *Times*: The use of the authorized version is granted on a narrow slip in large type, and this is pasted on a broad sheet of paper, on the left hand of which the revised text is printed—the translation on the one side, and the original on the other.

Among the principal rules of guidance for the committee are the following: That the authorized version be corrected only where necessary, and everything that is correct should be retained; that the original words have the widest use of which they are capable; that the alterations of the present edition be few in number.

In the subject to which this statement relates all intelligent persons are more or less interested. As a mere monument of our literature the English Bible is a volume essential to the completeness of every library, whether the collection cover a single shelf or line the walls of an edifice built for the purpose. But however lively the mere literary interest of the volume, it sinks into insignificance in comparison with the higher concern involved in the correctness of the translation. By the proposal made some time ago and at length acted upon in England, to revise the King James version of the Scriptures, both the literary interest and the religious interest have been excited. Men of taste were naturally alarmed at the mere suggestion of any meddling with the exquisite English of the venerable book, well knowing that to improve upon the admirable simplicity, purity, and directness of expression which mark the translation is an impossibility. Others, again, more or less indifferent about the religious import of the sacred writings, were unwilling that any change should be made in a volume associated in their hearts with the cherished memories of youth and home. One of the most touching appeals against revision that we have seen, was made by a person of this class, whose conservatism seemed to rest upon the same amiable sentiment which prompts some persons to preserve a father's staff, or to spare the old tree under whose shade they played in childhood. But a still more earnest opposition to the proposed amendment is maintained by those who look at the subject from a religious point of view. By some it is contended that the effect of the scheme must be to weaken the popular confidence in the authority of the English Bible. This objection has little, if any force. In the present age of the world all things are known, or will come into the light. The devotion of ignorance has ceased to be of any value, and a reverence founded on error commands no respect. Whatever mischief can be produced by the allegation of mistaken renderings in the authorized version of the scriptures has been already initiated—as everybody has heard or will hear of the charge, and no well informed person will choose to deny its truth. Popular commentaries are found everywhere in which the common translation is corrected, or new renderings of certain words are suggested as admissible or desirable. Even the marginal readings given in so many Bibles suffice to show that the authors of the common version were often not absolutely sure that they had selected the right English word to express the meaning of the original. It is also well known that the KING JAMES translation has undergone considerable changes since it was first published in 1611. In 1769 Dr. BLAYNEY edited an edition in which he made many corrections, and since that time changes were made in an Oxford edition which have passed over into the Bible in common use. Indeed, it seems clear that the proper effect of a careful revision must be to increase the popular confidence in the authorized version. As appears from the statement quoted above, a mere revision and not a new translation is intended. And the result of the labors of the eminent scholars who have undertaken the work, will be an edition of the Bible in reference to which no competent person can say that it contains erroneous or grossly defective translations. At present the general charge of error and defect so often made, excites among the uninformed the suspicion that the faults are much greater than they are in reality. On the appearance of the revised edition no ground will be left either for the charge or for the suspicion. It also appears that there is nothing in the undertaking which needs alarm either merely sentimental lovers of the book or those who object to change on the score of taste. The diction will remain essentially unchanged, the style and literary tone of the volume will be unaffected by the revision; in fact nothing will be removed but the manifest blemishes by which it is deformed.

A few words concerning these blemishes may be satisfactory to some of our readers. One obvious blemish in the common version of the Bible is a considerable number of words which, though in familiar use in the beginning of the seventeenth century, have become obsolete. Then, there are a few terms of frequent recurrence which, having in the course of time taken on an indelicate or coarse shade of meaning, no longer represent justly the import of the original word. In all these words a change has been made adapted by the mere lapse of time.

Other defects of our translation have become obvious in the light of the advancement made in the knowledge of the original languages of the book. The translations were among the best scholars of their time, but the acquaintance with Hebrew and Greek then possible was defective in comparison with the knowledge attainable at the present day. Both philology and archæology have made long strides within the last fifty years. Asia and especially Palestine and the adjacent countries have been thoroughly explored, and thus a clear light has been cast upon names as obscure as midnight a hundred years ago, because the things for which the names stood were unknown. Thus in our Bible the word *adder* is used to translate four different Hebrew words, two of which are now perfectly identified with known serpents. The word *behemoth* is now certainly known to mean hippopotamus, and ought to be so translated. The word *leviathan* occurs five times in our version, and is always left untranslated, though in three of the passages it undoubtedly means the crocodile. This point might be illustrated at almost any length. By applying the extensive knowledge of the natural history of Egypt and Asia Minor at present possessed, the Committee of Revision may impart a fresh and lively interest to their edition by introducing an improved nomenclature in that department. But this is by no means the most important particular in which the translation may be improved by the application of modern knowledge.

In respect to the New Testament, it is generally known that, by the discovery and collation of manuscripts, a vastly better original text exists now than two hundred years ago. Then, a much nicer knowledge of New Testament Greek is possessed now than formerly. Not only the force of single words, but the relation of sentences, as indicated by the connecting particles, is very much better understood. As illustration of the sort of improvements which may be expected from the revision, we may refer to Matthew xxv., 8: "The foolish said unto the wise, give us of your oil, for our lamps *are gone out*." The original tense, as well as the sense, manifestly requires, "Our lamps are going out." Such emendations may seem trifling, but in a book so much read by young as well as old, no remediable defects should be allowed to stand. A more important emendation may be made in the fourth chapter of the Epistle to the Hebrews. There the word Gospel (*beglaomai*) is translated successively by "count," "impute" and "reckon," to the evident confusion and embarrassment of the reasoning, as the reader cannot fail to see if he peruses the passage after substituting "reckon," as the original requires, wherever "count" or "impute" occurs. Evidently in such a passage the Greek word ought to be represented by the same English word throughout.

After all possible revision, however, it will be found that only the form, not the substance of the book has been changed—as whatever defects it may have, our authorized version of the scriptures is conceded on all hands to be one of the best translations in any language. All who speak English have good reason to be proud of the book and thankful for the services which it has rendered to liberty and truth. By revision it will be made only more worthy of the homage it receives.

OUR PECKSNIFF AGAIN.

JAMES L. GRAHAM is out in a card, in which he admits all we have said of his action in the Nine Million Bill. The case is just here: The friends of the measure were strong enough to pass the bill without GRAHAM'S vote, but were not strong enough to "put it through" according to the programme without a suspension of the Senate rules, and to suspend them GRAHAM'S vote was necessary, AND THEY GOT IT. *Graham voted to suspend the rules.* In voting thus he did the bill a vital service, and there was an understanding that if to pass the bill his vote was necessary it could be had,—at the very least he was not to vote against it. Of course, true to his PECKSNIFFIAN character, he was to *talk right* all the time. PECKSNIFF was always ody, conscientious, meek and indignantly virtuous, in the presence of any bit of devility that happened to be going on. See how like him was GRAHAM on this occasion. We quote from his card the little speech he made when about to cast the vote that was to give the lie to all its professions:

> *"Mr. Speaker, I have opposed this bill in every stage of its passage through the Senate, and shall vote against it on its passage here, but I am not willing that it shall oppose mere dilatory motions which can accomplish nothing but consumption of valuable time. This bill has been under discussion for the last week or two; three days, it is evidently the will and intention of the Senate to pass it, and a vote on its final passage may as well be had to-day as to-morrow."*

Having thus delivered himself, GRAHAM proceeded to vote to suspend the rules, the only point on which the supporters of the bill were not strong enough without his assistance.

And here, to keep up the parellel between our PECKSNIFF and the great original, we quote once more from MR. DICKENS:

> "As to Mr. Pecksniff himself," observed the hostess in conclusion, spreading out the skirts of her gown with both hands, and nodding her head a great many times as she did so, "I don't know what to say. Somebody must have poisoned his mind against me, I am sure, for I was *always extraordinary* kind. I cannot believe that such a noble spoken gentleman would go and do wrong of his own accord."
>
> "How many people," says MR. DICKENS, "there are in the world, for no better reason, spindle these Pecksniffs to the last, and abandon virtuous men when Pecksniffs breathe upon them."

ABOUT WITHDRAWING.

We are authorized to say that the assertion of the "organ" about the withdrawal of Reform candidates is without a particle of truth. It is the "last card" of a desperate faction, a base coinage, on the circulation of which the Ring base their only hope. It is true that there is not a single office-seeker on the Reform ticket—a circumstance so unusual in the politics of this county, that the Ringdon't know what to make of it.

But there have been withdrawals and will be more. A dozen "slate" candidates withdrew on the first appearance of the Reform movement. Never did a brood of spring chickens, on the appearance of a hawk, scatter so precipitately as they. The Ring Committee have held sessions to procure the withdrawal of more stubborn candidates, who, with more zeal than sense, were determined to stand their chances. At the latest advices complete success had not attended the efforts of the Committee on Withdrawals.

The "organ" will not deny these things. If it had any sense it would cease its falsehoods about the Reformers and treat their candidates at least decently. These candidates are gentlemen about whom no one, not even the "organ," can utter falsehoods with impunity. Nothing in this world do the Ring desire so much as the withdrawal of the Reform candidates. Certain little jobs are in jeopardy. "Slate" making is at a discount. The presence of the Reform candidates confuses things terribly. They must be got out of the way, and the "organ" and the leaders, as a class, have undertaken to lie them out of the way. Truly the necessities of the Ring must be urgent? Is there another County House, Unexpended Balance or other job that is suffering? Are the fat salaries of the Ring in danger? Here, unquestionably, is the secret of the ardent desire of the Ring that the Reform candidates should withdraw. It is hard that these precious patriots should be so interfered with. Perhaps if the leaders would be a little more respectful the Reform candidates might consent to withdraw and allow the Ring to go ahead with their jobbery!

THE Ring leaders, if they believe the Reform movement cannot succeed, as they are constantly asserting, should act accordingly. Take them on their own ground for a single moment—they must nevertheless concede that the Reformers are still numerous—numerous enough, at the very least, to decide the day, and that not even the Ring can afford to despise them. Now these Ring leaders seem to think, if think they do at all, the Reformers are nobody's. When the day for testing this question comes they will think differently When the Ring men get their ticket in the field what are they going to do with it? Besides giving a reason for nominating a second Republican ticket, they will have to give others sufficient to convince Reformers that they ought to abandon their own and go over to the Ring ticket. Now, the Ring men must either have an insane view of their own strength, or intend to throw away the county, for they seem to make no provision for success. We say granting for the moment all that the Ring claim as to their own strength, one or other of these conclusions follow. Perhaps the leaders are foolish enough to suppose that the Reformers are going to be cudgeled and driven into whatever the Ring may propose. This view, we beg leave to remark, is, to say the least, very unsafe to make large calculations on. We ask, again, when the Ring have done the unwise and disorganizing thing of putting a second ticket in the field, *what are they going to do with it?* This seems not to have occurred to them. A faction which last fall were in the minority and have since accumulated a weight of odium perfectly frightful, not to refer to what is yet to be placed on them, should be a little modest, if in their downward career they have not got beyond that point.

THE fact that the Bank of Frankfort has loaned the Prussian Government five millions of thalers on a deposit of American stock as security, is thought to be a significant indication of the estimate European capitalists place on American securities. Perhaps it may be well not to expect too much, but certainly nothing has yet happened that leads us to anticipate disastrous results from the war in any special manner. We should not expect to escape from all the consequences of so great a disturbance. As the greatest producing neutral nation, in some respects we shall derive substantial benefits. That these will be more than balanced by the prostration of our credit abroad, as some have predicted, there is at present no sufficient reason for supposing.

THE weight of testimony appears to be in favor of the genuineness of the secret treaty said to have been proposed by France to Prussia. The French official journal admits that something like the matter contained in the alleged treaty was talked over between BENEDETTI, the French Minister and BISMARCK, while Prussian authority asserts that the treaty itself is in the Prussian archives in BENEDETTI'S own handwriting. The latter, if he has the document, would be one curious. England seems to be acting as though she intended to resist the Emperor's ambition; and no doubt will insist on an immediate disavowal and ample guarantees in future from France against the scheme involved in the proposals just brought to light.

INFALLIBILITY.

The True Significance of the Dogmatical Definition—Eventful Loss of Temporal Power Anticipated.

[From the Berlin Volks-Zeitung.]

We have received the following communication from Rome, which we publish unabbreviated. The writer, a Catholic, does not hesitate to talk a great deal about the question of personal infallibility of the Pope, but none of them has defined the true point of view from which it ought to be regarded, the majority, probably, because it is not yet sufficiently clear, and somebecause they are not permitted, or do not wish to show their cards before the proper time is come. For eighteen years the Jesuits have been pursuing a policy laid down which tended to their natured since the conviction has forced itself upon them, that the temporal power of the Pope is approaching its end with irresistible rapidity. New pecuniary resources had to be found, and in a manner which, at any rate, would be closed to the Holy Chair by such an event. Now, all the possessions of the Jesuits belong, as is known, to the Pope, and are the genuine property of a special mission, managed, in the name of the Pope, by a general, over all the resources of the Jesuits, which he disposes of according to the wants of the time, and the aim to be reached. In the same manner, when, by so doing, he hopes to further the purposes of the Order, would lend he This is not the case with the rest of the property of the Church, as, for instance, that of the monasteries, &c., which, as may well be supposed, are not always the most inclined to renounce their possessions in favor of the Pope, and only rarely, and only in special cases, do they surrender a part, but never a considerable one, never do so without reluctance and resistance. This is to be changed. All clerical possessions are to be taken from the hands of the whole Catholic Church. In order to effect this, the infallibility of the Pope is to be established in the hands of a single person—the Pope. The dogma of infallibility is only the means of securing the basis, and the Jesuits, together with the Bishops, Abbots and Chapters, will be placed in a position in which they will find it impossible for them to assert their claims to the separate enjoyment of their property, which hitherto has prevented. The minority suspect the dangerous arguments which may be turned against them, and the dramatic discussions after all are only sham fights. The Jesuits are no Idealists; they look at the world with open eyes, and a possible relief might come from the people. "Call you this backing your friends, Mr. Graham?" For all that concerns the people, you might as well have voted for the bill, if it was to be carried by the votes of the Democrats alone, along in this way, than by giving it a *direct* support. It was painful, for you, no doubt, to vote against it, as you have yourself, but you did it, and put in the same breath that it was wrong. If you do not, however, favor it at bottom, you have made a most unfortunate record, one which no special pleading, either of your own or of the newspapers that are ready to come up your defaults, can either obliterate or explain away.

KILBUCK.

Appointment by the Governor.

Governor Geary made the following appointments on Saturday: Notaries Public—J. G. Lorse, Pittsburgh, vice Ebenezer Williams, Jr., resigned.

A WRITER from China to the Boston *Traveller* reveals another feature of the Celestial imposition business, into which America seems to be drifting. Through passage to America costs but forty dollars, that is a sum beyond the means of the average coolie, who can never get out of a thousand, who leave Hong Kong. To secure it they give their note to the ticket broker for this or three times the amount. The brokers security is the mandarin of the district, who calls in the coolie's relatives, or those of the coolie's village and they take bonds from the man's family or friends. Less often now than last year, yet frequently, the coolie cannot pay the ticket broker after he reaches America, and the broker sues the mandarin, and the latter the aldermen, and these the friends, and if the friends cannot pay the accumulated amount and costs, they are sold to satisfy the claim. This sale is also complete as the slave sales of the old South and gives the purchaser absolute title and control, so that to secure an immigrant to America, we suffer his family in China to be sold into unending slavery.

A MAN named T. T. Studiford has been advertising thoroughly his sale of town lots in the City of Virginia, Cabell county, West Virginia, and has gained many purchasers, at from $150 to $300 each. Some of these, having their deeds to Cabell county for record, that there is no such town in that or any other part of Virginia and that no such man owns lands in Virginia. It is also shown that the New York directory contains not the name of T. T. Studiford, the imaginary owner of imaginary lots in an imaginary city, and some rascal is believed to be from $500,000 to $500,000 richer.

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THE WAR.

What French Newspapers are Allowed to Publish—Treatment of Prisoners of War—Prayers Ordered for Napoleon and the Prince Imperial—France Without an Ally—The Great Powers of the Future—How We are Affected—Scandinavians in Sympathy with Napoleon, &c., &c.

"It Is Too Late."

LONDON, July 28.—France inquired through Russia on what conditions peace might be made. Prussia's reply to Russia was embodied in four words, "It is too late."

Secret Treaty—Denial from France—Revelation from Prussia as to Its Genuineness.

LONDON, July 27.—M. B. Lavellette, French Minister at London, waited upon Earl Granville at the Foreign Office and had an interview. The subject was the secret treaty proposed by France to Prussia. Lavellette stated that the plan and outline of the treaty had been originated by Count von Bismarck, and that the proposition had been the subject of a conversation with M. Benedetti during the latter's residence in Berlin, but that it had been rejected upon reference to France.

The members of the French Embassy in this city warmly accuse Count von Bismarck with duplicity in seeking to excite England and America against France by the simultaneous publication of the proposed secret treaty between France and Prussia, in the columns of the London *Times* and New York *Herald*. It is understood that copies of the treaty were given to the representatives of the above journals at the headquarters of the Prussian Embassy in this city on Sunday last, to be forwarded to their respective journals for publication.

The journals of Paris excitedly assert that the treaty never had any existence outside of sundry conversations between Count Bismarck and M. Benedetti, while the latter was acting as representative of France at the Court of Berlin.

PARIS, July 27.—The *Journal Official* has an article this morning on the pretended treaty recently published in the London *Times*, having for its object the acquisition of Luxenburg and Belgium by France, on condition of France not opposing the union of the States of the South with the North German Confederation, after the treaty of Prague. Several conferences were held at Berlin between Count von Bismarck and the French Ambassador on the subject of the projected alliance. Some of the ideas set forth in the *Times* were then advanced, but the French Government never had any knowledge of the project described, and as for the propositions, which were discussed at the interviews mentioned, the Emperor disowns them. It can be seen from this publication on the part of the London *Times* is designed merely to influence public opinion in England.

BERLIN, July 27.—The Berlin *Correspondence* of to-day publishes the secret treaty between France and Prussia. It declares that the treaty is in the Prussian archives in the hand writing of General Benedetti. Already before the war of 1866 France had offered an alliance with Prussia, on condition she consented to cede Saxony. Bismarck refused to entertain the proposition, and attack Austria provided that Prussia consented to cede to France the Rhenish provinces upon the left bank of the Rhine.

Activity in English Navy Yards.

The greatest activity is manifested at the great naval depots and arsenals throughout England. Great stores of munitions and supplies of all kinds are being accumulated rapidly, indicating a positive policy. During the past few days the Government has issued immense orders for war supplies, to be delivered at various admiralty depots.

The French Navy at Cherbourg.

Advices from a special special correspondent at Cherbourg, state that the squadron is concentrating at that port under command of Admiral and ten rear admirals. The chief commander being Vice Admiral Count Bonet Willaumez, whose flag ship is the ironclad Surveillante, Commander Grival. The First Division is under the order of Rear Admiral Pothonan, whose flag ship is the iron clad frigate La Savoe, Commandant Perigot. This division comprises the iron clad frigate Glorieuse, Commandant Commandant Gaillard, the Iron clad frigate Gauloise, Commandant De Jonquier; the Flandre, Commandant Duval; the iron clad corvettes Thetis, Commandant Du Plessis De Gre. Commandant Reboust. The Rochambeau above mentioned is the Dunderburg, bought of the United States. The Rochambeau's armament is fifteen guns, of nine and one-half and ten and three-tenths inch bore, throwing shot and shell weighing four hundred and seventy-five pounds a distance of thirteen hundred feet. The fleet is thoroughly equipped in all respects, but only a portion of the vessels are waiting. The division was to sail on Saturday evening, and the Second probably on Tuesday.

The First Division doubtless was the same which passed Dover on the 25th. Transports are now being loaded at the various Normanes, now forming at Cherbourg. Gen. De Valsseau arrived this morning to inspect this corps. Gen. Rebout goes in command of it. It numbers 8,000, and will be landed on the Schleswig coast to join Gen. Bourbakis. 30,000 men. This squadron is to blockade the Prussian coast. Troops are expected to operate from Denmark.

Defences of Cherbourg—Prussia Loses a Chance.

The defences of Cherbourg have been strengthened within a few days, but had the Prussian fleet attacked the place last week it might have been entered through the western pass, turned the guns of the forts and retreated through the eastern pass without receiving a shot.

Troops Arriving.

Detachments of infantry and marines are continually arriving. The transport fleet is composed of large sailing vessels, with auxiliary screws, and will be commanded by Vice Admiral Jurien de la Graviere. Ten of the transports there will go a numerous flotilla with batteries and gunboats, to operate on the coasts and rivers. The expeditionary corps of the Baltic will comprise two African divisions, including the Zouaves, Turcos and Spahis and two of Chasseurs de Afrique.

Correspondents Snubbed by Bazaine

A special correspondent of the New York *Tribune* at Metz sends advices on the 24th inst., that there was at that time from the front, no possibility of passing the lines. He had an interview with the Secretary of General Bazaine, and to the request of a nephew of the latter for a pass, his reply was curt and to the point. "Let her Let-eut, saying that by the Emperor's special desire, all corps commanders were to use the greatest vigilance to prevent all persons not belonging to the army from accompanying it to Germany, and especially correspondents. He never do so without reluctance and resistance. This is to be changed. All clerical possessions are to be taken from the hands of the whole Catholic Church. In order to effect this, the infallibility of the Pope is to be established in the hands of a single person—the Pope. The dogma of infallibility is only the means of securing the basis, and the Jesuits, together with the Bishops, Abbots and Chapters, will be placed in a position in which they will find it impossible for them to assert their claims to the separate enjoyment of their property, which hitherto has prevented. The minority suspect the dangerous arguments which may be turned against them, and the dramatic discussions after all are only sham fights. The Jesuits are no Idealists; they look at the world with open eyes, and a possible relief might come from the people. "Call you this backing your friends, Mr. Graham?" For all that concerns the people, you might as well have voted for the bill, if it was to be carried by the votes of the Democrats alone, along in this way, than by giving it a *direct* support. It was painful, for you, no doubt, to vote against it, as you have yourself, but you did it, and put in the same breath that it was wrong. If you do not, however, favor it at bottom, you have made a most unfortunate record, one which no special pleading, either of your own or of the newspapers that are ready to come up your defaults, can either obliterate or explain away.

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All Vessels Being Completed and Repaired as Rapidly as Possible.

The navy is to be put on something of a war footing, and all the navy yards are ordered to hasten with all possible speed the completion and repair of every vessel that can be got into commission at a reasonable time. This order, it promptly carried out, will enable the Navy Department to reinforce the European squadron with eight or ten monitors within about two months. The limit fixed by Congress for the number of seamen has been reached, but the Secretary of the Navy and Admiral Porter think that the number should be increased to fourteen thousand men. At the Portsmouth navy yard additional workmen have been employed, from the Kearsarge's village and they take bonds from the man's family or friends. Less often now than last year, yet frequently, the coolie cannot pay the ticket broker after he reaches America, and the broker sues the mandarin, and the latter the aldermen, and these the friends, and if the friends cannot pay the accumulated amount and costs, they are sold to satisfy the claim. This sale is also complete as the slave sales of the old South and gives the purchaser absolute title and control, so that to secure an immigrant to America, we suffer his family in China to be sold into unending slavery.

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THE HEATED TERM.

Unparalleled Heat—Remarkable Pressure.

Last week was the hottest consecutive seven days ever experienced in New York. The following figures show the highest range of the thermometer each day:

Sunday	97°	Thursday	93°
Monday	90°	Friday	91°
Tuesday	96°	Saturday	96°
Wednesday	96°		

Average nearly 94°

While the temperature in New York city has ranged, between six o'clock in the morning and two o'clock in the evening, from ninety degrees to ninety-eight degrees Fahrenheit in the shade, and therein has exceeded the rate at Galveston, New Orleans, Key West and Havana, the heat has been even more extreme at several points in the West. At St. Louis it sent the mercury up to one hundred and four in the shade on the 23d, while at Peoria, Illinois, it drove the fickle fluid to one hundred and six degrees.

Upon examination of our exchanges, says the *Sun*, we find that the intense heat of last week extends over a zone in America of about eight hundred miles in width, north and south, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific in breadth. At nearly all points within that zone the heat was found to be higher than was ever known there before for the same length of time, and up to the latest moment of advices the intensity continued unabated. If we now turn our attention to the Eastern Continent a similar state of things confronts us there also. The Thames, for example, records a heat of ninety-five degrees in the shade, the parks of London are crowded with people suffocated of water that their dear are half fed upon foliage and twigs clipped from the trees, and the sufferings of the poor in the streets seem gleam with a wavering and baleful effulgence, as though they, too, were tongues of fire darting from the mouth of the pit. The European belt of fervent heat corresponds almost with the meridian of London, for while the ocean link between is glowing with nearly equal severity, the relief there, if any, resulting from the cooling breezes modified by gusts of wind and dashes of rain which such latitudes are frequently subject to.

Astronomers and physiologists are busy endeavoring to study out the causes of this extraordin

Weekly Commercial.

STATE NEWS.

John Hartwell, of Fremont, aged 76, fell dead on the 20th instant. He had complained of a pain in his breast the night before, but on leaving made no mention of the foreboding of his death.

J. F. Henry proposes to establish a Democratic newspaper in Titusville. Colonel Lawrence, of corporation fame, is planning the best means of securing the faithful to secure the necessary funds.

Mrs. Charles Fagundus, who claimed the farm now celebrated as oil territory, died on Saturday after a short illness.

At a meeting of the delegates of the Workingmen's Beneficial Association of Schuylkill county, at Pottsville, on Saturday, it was agreed that the miners resume work on the basis of ten hours' work constituting a day's labor, thirty and forty per cent. of the labor working at contract makers over $90, $125, $150 or $200 per month.

The denizens of the oil regions have some queer ideas. The latest addition to the bill of fare at Fagundus restaurants is "West Hickory Rock," and is made of petroleum oil partially mixed with whortleberry wine. Among the attractions at an eating house are four fashionables and a dude, who sit at a table, one of them in a paper collar, "Let us have peace." Among the advantages of the Magnetic Powder is it offers each of its patrons a glass of lemonade free of charge.

The Scranton *Republican* tells the following story, illustrative of the various characters concurred to an old gentleman named Pettebone, who carries the mail between Wilkesbarre and Lake Postoffice, on Thursday last. About 3 o'clock P. M. Pettebone, on the road to Harveys Lake, Mr. Pettebone attempted to pass one of the wagons of the G. A. R. excursion, and the road being narrow, he drove his horse, wagon and all over an embankment into a ravine of rocks, stumps and hemlock. The driver of the wagon that caused the accident rushed to the rescue, and in a few minutes had raised the wagon and horse, to neither of the party did any damage of consequence. The old man was more unfortunate, and was bleeding profusely from the face. Two medical gentlemen in the party made an examination, and found that the only injury he had received was on the nose. It appears that Mr. Pettebone was afflicted with cancer on the nose, and in falling struck a sharp organ in such a manner as to cut the cancer clean off. The nose was put into as good shape as possible by the learned doctors, and if the cancer does not again make its appearance the accident will prove to have been a blessing in disguise.

Westmoreland county has three hundred common schools and one hundred and fifty churches.

We arrived on Monday the first number of the Greensburg *Tribune*, J. B. McAfee, editor and proprietor, and A. H. Shaw, publisher. It is nearly sized with the gentlemen who are trying their hand at getting original and selected matter in to Republican in politics, but will not independent by of the dictation of religious dogmas.

A happy Harrisburg father has five girls and four boys employed in a cotton factory, and keeps seven more at home to bear him company.

In Philadelphia, Saturday night, Bridget Mctarvey was shot by a man named Patrick Burk, for refusing him admission to her house.

In the Moravian burying ground at Bethlehem are buried the remains of David Nitschman, the founder of Bethlehem. The inscription on his tombstone reads itself:

DAVID NITSCHMAN,
Founder of Bethlehem, who fled the first tree to build the city of houses.
Born September 16, 1676, in Moravia,
Died April 14, 1758.

Here also reposes the famous writer of Indian history,

LOSKIEL,
Born at Angermunde, November 7, 1740,
Died February 21, 1814.

Christina Shallkop, who recently arrived in Reading from Germany, tried the experiment of kindling a fire with kerosene, on Sunday last. Her success is a matter of very doubtful.

John Kramer, of Chillicothe, Mifflin county, was arrested by a detective on the Philadelphia and Erie road on Wednesday last, and instantly killed.

Allentown has been selected as the place for holding the next annual convocation of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The Lake Shore Grape Growers' Association will hold its annual exhibition at North East about the first of October.

By direction of Hon. George S. Boutwell, Secretary of the Treasury, United States Attorney H. B. Swope has discontinued the case of the Comptroller of the Currency *vs.* the Second National Bank of Erie, which was in the form of a *quo warranto*, to forfeit the franchises of this bank, for having charged more than 6% per cent. interest. The Comptroller's finance was recommended because, on investigation, it was discovered that the stockholders were imposed upon in directing the institution of the suit, by private parties, who had entered into the scheme for the purpose of speculating in it, and had purely personal ends to subserve.

From the *Lancaster Intelligencer* we learn that a man named Augustus Kreiter, residing at Lititz, Lancaster county, got drunk and died on Mr. Eli Hartman, of Hollidaysburg, the other day raised a potato stalk four and a half feet in length, containing fifty-six potatoes fit for use, besides a dozen or two of small ones. Pretty good crop for one hill.

Friday night, as is supposed in his sleep, and fell out of the second story window of his residence, in the rear of the Arms hotel, Altoona, living in an insensible condition, with his head badly cut. At last accounts he was in a critical state.

Mr. Jonathan Leslie, a prominent oil operator at Pleasantville, disappeared on the 5th instant, and has not since been heard from. He is fifty-five years of age, five feet ten inches high, weighs from 120 to 125 pounds, and has but three fingers on his left hand, the little finger having been taken off. He had with him, when leaving, Any information which will lead to a knowledge of his whereabouts will be thankfully received by Mrs. Sally D. Locke, of Titusville, or Mr. H. M. Locke, of Pleasantville.

On Monday a little boy of six years, son of a colored man named Johnson, in Titusville, was poisoned by swallowing a quantity of concentrated lye, and cannot recover.

The Pleasantville *Gunlight* states that on Sunday last a party of young men at Fagundus City (West Hickory) procured a keg of beer and went out to an engine house to enjoy themselves, among them two brothers who were drafted. One of them having drank pretty deeply, lay down upon the ground to sleep; while sleeping his comrades engaged in a friendly scuffle, and commenced throwing water upon each other, when the water accidentally went into the face of the sleeping man. He roused up in a sweating passion, and attempted to be heated. The two quarreled and soon went down, when the other brother, who had attempted to assist his brother in the unfortunate man, inflicting severe wounds. The third and fourth of Murphy in the left arm, the fourth cutting to flesh wound between the elbow and the shoulder. The fourth and fifth shots entered the abdomen, the latter passing the lungs, the other striking him in the breast, the fifth shot struck the left side, and struck a rib glancing out.

The shooting was done so quickly that the men who were standing outside the door hardly had time to rush in before the affair was over, and they were all there with the deceased upon the bloody scene. Everybody was quietly awaiting the galvanoon of the Coroner's expedition and Governor Acdinicad's new regime.

IRON MARKETS.

PHILADELPHIA, July 25.—Pig iron is in better request, and we quote No. 1 Foundry, at $23; small lots No. 2 do at $20@20, and 1,000 tons forge at $20.

The Cambria, Pennsylvania, Iron Company have in operation one steel rail mill, and are completed with a proposed capacity of 20,000 tons. These works indicate a capacity of 80,000 tons per annum, but can exceed that.

Manufactured Iron—Bar iron has advanced to 2½@2¾ cents at the mill. The price in Europe also advanced 5%, being now quoted at 18 there, costing about 92 paid down here. Scrap iron is scarce and firm at $15 for No. 1 Forge and old rails sold at $15 50, and 130 tons extra scrap at $16.

Scotch Pig—Sells in a small way at $19@21 ₱ ton.

Blooms—Move slowly.

Nails—Are taken at $4 50 ₱ keg, at which they are quoted and firm.

Anchors and Chains—Are quiet. Small sales of the former at 8½c, and the latter at 9½@ 9 ₱ lb.—*Commercial List.*

NEW YORK.

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PROBABLE MURDER

A MAN SHOT FOUR TIMES.

The people of Birmingham were startled last evening by the rumor that a shooting affray had occurred at the Methodist Episcopal Church, and that a young man named Michael Murphy, a well known resident of the borough, had been mortally wounded by a man named Joseph Aldridge.

THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AFFRAY.

It appears that Murphy and Aldridge had been out drinking during the day, having just commenced drinking after having taken and kept a pledge of total abstinence for a year past. They started out together to spend the day drinking at various saloons in Birmingham, and about five o'clock they visited the Methodist Hose House, both being members of this hose company, for the purpose of taking a sleep before supper. They slept until a little after six o'clock when a member of the company named Dunn entered the house and tried to wake them up, telling them it was time to go to supper. Aldridge was the first to get up, and said, good naturedly, rubbing his eyes, "who is there?" pointing to Murphy, who was asleep. "I will give him the head the night he ever got." It appears that it is cust mary among the members of the company to play practical jokes on members up by giving them a ducking by turning the hose on them, the matter being generally treated good naturedly. Aldridge, after making the above remark sized the hose and began to play on Murphy, who on being roused by the cry, "Here comes the hose," jumped up and took the hose from him, saying "Now I don't do so you but the swing; don't know what he meant, he pitched out a stream of water on the floor. He said, Joe, what do you mean? Dan, he followed me, and shot me, saying, I'll fix you; then I ran out of the house, and he followed me; then I ran back again, and he fired me at the supper table. I thought he was going to shoot me there; after he fired five or six shots, I ran behind the stove, and some of my friends took me to a doctor."

PUBLIC OPINION.

The affair caused a great deal of excitement on the South Side, both parties being well acquainted and having a great many friends. The matter was the general topic of conversation on the streets and in the saloons. The shooting was generally considered most unjustifiable.

THE FIRST ACT OF PARLIAMENT authorizing the construction of a railroad in Great Britain, connecting two cities, was considered sufficient to be a new discovery, that railroads are really public roads, open to all who will use them with their own vehicles. The act passed in 1801 to incorporate the "Surrey Iron Railway company" provided that the company was to build the road and allow others to furnish rolling stock and transport merchandise by paying toll; as upon a canal or turnpike. So the reformers who advocate such a measure for our railroads have the advantage of precedent, as well as of reason, in their favor.

A WINNIPEG correspondent states that all talk of resistance to Canadian authority had ceased, and the anniversary of Dominion confederation was being celebrated by the most loyal display of the Union Jack and a reckless consumption of beer and two gallons of whisky. Everybody was quietly awaiting the galvanoon of the Coroner's expedition and Governor Acdinicad's new regime.

IRON MARKETS.

PHILADELPHIA, July 25.—Pig iron is in better request, and we quote No. 1 Foundry, at $23; small lots No. 2 do at $20@20, and 1,000 tons forge at $20.

The Cambria, Pennsylvania, Iron Company have in operation one steel rail mill, and are completed with a proposed capacity of 20,000 tons. These works indicate a capacity of 80,000 tons per annum, but can exceed that.

Manufactured Iron—Bar iron has advanced to 2½@2¾ cents at the mill. The price in Europe also advanced 5%, being now quoted at 18 there, costing about 92 paid down here. Scrap iron is scarce and firm at $15 for No. 1 Forge and old rails sold at $15 50, and 130 tons extra scrap at $16.

Scotch Pig—Sells in a small way at $19@21 ₱ ton.

Blooms—Move slowly.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, July 27, 1870.

Money continues easy with most of our discount houses, and the banks have a plentiful supply for their customer applicants. The offerings are comparatively light, and little acceptable paper is seen at all on the open market.

Local stocks are dull. Some small lots of bank stocks are offered, Allegheny National sold at 67½, and Citizens' at 68½; Bank of Pittsburgh is on the market at 71½@72½; Allegheny Valley 7 30 bonds are quotable at about 97—few lots are offering.

—At Chicago markets and finances continue dull and unsatisfactory. The condition of local finances depends so largely upon the grain markets that when they are wavering between a considerable advance and a considerable decline, as they now seem to be, finances are dull. Nobody knows what to do in view of the future. The country out here in Europe makes a prospect of higher prices for wheat which the condition of the grain here, and the continuance of close, sweltering weather forbid either speculators or shippers in this market the hope of realizing. In this condition of things, nobody knows what to do. Operators are afraid to ship, and afraid to sell. The almost certainty also of an unprecedented crop of corn this fall, when will begin to come in quite freely five or six weeks hence, while we have still near 2,000,000 bushels in store here, held at 12 cents per bushel in gold higher than at this time last year, makes the future value of this kind of grain also move out slowly. This condition of things is shown in the scanty supply of exchange, which is made an advance in its price necessary to day.

—The money market at Cincinnati has undergone little actual change during the week, though there has been a speculative tendency in their movements of affairs in trade circles to work against easy accommodations. Those who have occasion to offer paper make generally satisfactory showings of their uses of the money they get, and there is nothing to show that borrowers are not now on as safe a basis as heretofore. There was a speculative tendency during the week, and it may be that it had some influence on the feelings of money lenders, but the responsible borrowers have found to have more money on hand to invest than they could place, and this gauge of the market serves as a safe one to go by. The two days' session ran about 10 per cent., and a considerable amount of the paper of regular customers is placed at 8@9 per cent.

—Government bonds to-day were firmer, and a fraction better in prices.

Messrs. Hill, McVay & Co., report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Buyers.	Noon.	Closing.
U. S. Bonds '81	112½	112½	112½
U. S. Bonds '62	109	109	109
U. S. Bonds '64	109	109	109
U. S. Bonds '65	109	109	109
U. S. Bonds '65, new	107½	108	108
U. S. Bonds '67	107½	108	108
U. S. Bonds '68	107½	108	108
Gold	112½	112½	112½

—The New York *Tribune* says that it is asserted, by well informed correspondents of German houses in this city, that England and Russia are exhausting all the resources of diplomacy to protract the suspense, and if possible to bring on a general war, in the spirit with the intention of securing some trifling concessions from the contending nations which might become the pivot upon which negotiations may turn in the future. Should this be the case, such a possible contingency, there is less disposition manifested to-day than at any time for a week past to increase their lines, for the slightest intimations foreshadowing successful interference by the great Powers would produce a sudden and rapid reaction in prices. The money markets are unusually firm this week, and gilt-edged railroad securities are safe and profitable investments, and they are simply waiting for the turn in the tide, when the investor is moment arrives there will be a heavy absorption, and the prices will be regulated by their intrinsic value to attract purchasers.

—The Wall street markets to-day were very unsettled. At 9:30 A. M. Gold opened at 122, Central and Hudson 90, Scrip 86½, Erie 21, Reading 94, Lake Shore 89, Cleveland and Pittsburgh 96½, Northwest 82 and 84, Rock Island 113, Fort Wayne 92, Pacific Mail 40, 81, Panl 58½ and 74½.

At 11:30 call gold 122½; Canton, 62; Western Union Telegraph, 37½; Quicksilver, 42; Pacific Mail, 39; Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph, 25; Adams Express, 69; United States Express, 68; Central and Hudson, 90½; Scrip, 86½; Erie, 20½; Reading, 94; Michigan Central, 116; Lake Shore, 89; Illinois Central, 129; Cleveland and Pittsburgh, 96½; Northwestern, 82 and 84; Rock Island, 113½; Fort Wayne, 92; Pacific Mail, 40, 81; Panl, 58½ and 74½.

At the regular 1:30 call the market became dull and there was another decline in many of the stocks. Gold was 122½; Canton, 62½; Western Union Telegraph, 37½; Quicksilver, 42; who was at the other end of the room, some twenty-five feet distant. The first two shots missed him entirely, but the third struck him in the unfortunate man, inflicting severe wounds. The third shot struck Murphy in the left arm, the fourth cutting to flesh wound between the elbow and the shoulder. The fourth and fifth shots entered the abdomen, the latter passing the lungs, the other striking him in the breast, the fifth shot struck the left side, and struck a rib glancing out.

The shooting was done so quickly that the men who were standing outside the door hardly had time to rush in before the affair was over, and they were all there with the deceased upon the bloody scene. Everybody was quietly awaiting the galvanoon of the Coroner's expedition and Governor Acdinicad's new regime.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, July 30, 1870.

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, July 23, 1870.

General Review.

Notwithstanding the intense heat of the past week the arrival of stock at the cattle yards has been large, particularly in the line of cattle, the ox barons, and 16 three dried beef. The current rates were: Shoulders at 13@13½c; sides, 16c; Sugar Cured Hams, 20@22½c; do, 18c; Sugar Cured Hams, 20@22½c; S. C. Shoulders, 16c; Dried Beef, canvassed, 21, 20c ₱ lb.

Dried Fruit—The stock is light, and the demand merely to meet the wants of the home trade. The season is drawing to a close and the new will soon take the place of the old stock. The nominal rates were: Apples sold, Peaches—quarters, 5@6c; halves, 7@8c ₱ lb.

Hay—The market was steady but not very active. The supply was fully up with the demand; sales of new were reported from wagon at $12 @ 13 per ton.

Starch—Pearl at 6½@c Satin Gloss 11½@c Corn Starch 12c ₱ lb.

Salt—The supply exceeds the demand; we report sales by the car load at $1 65@1 75 ₱ bbl; from store $1 80@1 90; single barrels, $2 00@2 10 ₱ bbl.

Onion Meal—This article continues quiet, and the demand is for a limited home trade. The prices are unchanged at 9@9½c ₱ bush.

Soda—In kegs 6c; boxes, assorted papers, 7½c; sal soda, 3½c.

Window Glass—The following are the store rates: Pale, 2-hoop ₱ box $2 25; do 3-hoop ₱ box $2 75; do, No. 1 3-hoop ₱ box $3 00; do No. 2 $2 50 @ $2 75; do, No. 2 3-hoop ₱ box $3 25. Lake herring $4 ₱ box $2 25.

Whisky—The market is without movement for clover and timothy; flax seed dull, with limited sales at $2 20 ₱ bush.

Potatoes

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1870.

TERMS:

One copy, per year $2 00
In clubs of twenty, per year 1 50
One copy gratis to the getter up of the club.

SOCIETY IN THE SOUTH.

Since the war the people of the South have been remarkably reticent, and have done little or nothing to make the outside world acquainted with their condition or prospects. It is sometimes supposed that their calamities have struck them dumb. But even before the war they were not communicative and seldom in any way appealed to the world by the impartation of information, even though it might have answered the purpose of apology or vindication. They were isolated by the institution of slavery and contented in their isolation, and slavery having disappeared, they probably feel slight satisfaction and expect little sympathy from outsiders in describing the condition in which it has left them. In one of the magazines for August we have at length an account of the present social condition of the South by an intelligent writer who was familiar with and admired the Southern society of old times before the war and who intensely sympathizes with the class who have suffered by its overthrow. To all who desire to get an inside view of the state of things in the Southern States, and to look at it through the eyes of the former slave owners the paper will seem very interesting and valuable. And neither its interest nor value is diminished by the fact that we may be unable to sympathize with the writer's evident grief on account of the abolition of slavery.

According to this writer, a profound feeling of discontent pervades Southern society. The sentiments of generosity, friendliness, and frank hospitality by which the people were once animated have given place to suspicion and misanthropy. In many, a feeling of desperation, because they have lost much, impels them to throw away all. Of many, the desire to grow rich has taken entire possession, and drives them into careers of reckless speculation. One result of the advent of the carpet-baggers has been to completely disorganize society, in some places at least, and even disturb the peace of families. These unfortunate beings, from whatever section of the North sprung, regarded as Yankees and conquerors, were treated in a manner which led to annoyance in the way of retaliation, and though thoughtful or prudent men desired and endeavored frequently to receive the intrusive new comers with courtesy, they were unable to control the female members of their own families, and the unpleasant consequences of feminine resentments affected domestic as well as social life. The writer states however that this antagonism has been growing less with every year and is fast ceasing to be a troubling element in society. Another cause of disturbance not likely soon to cease is the relations of debtor and creditor. At the close of the war in most of the States stay-laws were passed "to protect the debtor against unfair losses in the forced sale of his property." As the Legislatures contained more debtors than creditors and as the general sentiment favored the former class, the latter were placed at a great disadvantage. Many took advantage of the circumstance to avoid paying debts which they were perfectly able to pay. It often happened that a man formerly rich who had saved enough of his property to live in comfort with his family regarded and treated the mere request to pay as an insult, though the debtor and his family might be in positive want. Loss of property by the war was very extensively made the excuse for the refusal or postponement of payment of just claims with the effect of arraying one-half of the community against the other.

According to this writer, before the war, with the exception of a few planters, there were no large fortunes in the South. Nor were there many poor people relatively to the number of people in comfortable circumstances. The war has changed all this. Speculators and contractors acquired vast wealth, and delight in the display of their riches, to the mortification of the old families whose modest competence perished with the lost cause. Thus a very disagreeable revolution has been effected in Southern society.

Another antagonism of which we find note taken is the increased contrast and opposition between the educated and the uneducated. Formerly, we are told, humanity in the South consisted chiefly of the whites who could read and write, and of the negroes who could do neither. But the latter were ruled and directed by the former, and no discord resulted from their interaction. At present, the breach is rapidly widening between an educated white class and an ignorant and mercenary class which consists of negroes and mean whites. The number of mean whites, as they are called, is enormously recruited by the suspension of all education during the five years of the war. The stigma of slavery having been removed from the colored man, the uneducated white naturally seeks the society of the illiterate freedman, and great evils are apprehended as consequences of the alliance. Common schools may ultimately counteract these evils, but on account of the prejudices with which they are regarded, the difficulty of procuring good teachers, and some other causes, a long time must elapse before their influence can make much impression.

But according to our magazine writer, the most important element in the unsettlement of Southern society is the disorganization which has proceeded from the dissolution of the relation of master and slave. Evidently, in his memory slavery is invested with innumerable attractions, and when it was destroyed, a thing to him beautiful and worthy vanished from the country. The fond, pensive regret with which he dwells upon the kindly relations to which its gave rise, is almost pathetic. Though not reconciled to emancipation, it is however clear that he expects the next generation to accept it as a blessing for which they ought to be thankful. To us it would be surprising and incredible if very many of the slaveholders who for so long fought for the institution had not upon disorganized Southern society with other hopes and fears than those expressed by this magazine writer, and we think it was well to publish his essay.

"BAYONETS THINK."

Military men sometimes speak of an army as a machine. In a certain sense the notion is just, as the effect of discipline is to reduce the organic parts of which an army consists into absolute subjection to the volitions of a single man, and for some of the ends of war the efficiency of an army depends upon the degree in which its movements approximate the certainty and precision of machinery. Under another aspect the notion is utterly unjust, as there never was a time when the moral tone of an army was not an important element in its efficiency. The spirits of both officers and men are affected by causes which no foresight can guard against or ingenuity remedy. NAPOLEON the First said that he had not a marshal who was not a coward at three o'clock in the morning. In the wars of the first empire, as General TROCHU has remarked, the valor and even the talents of some conspicuous general officers seemed to depend upon the presence or absence of the Emperor. While from the same influence the common soldiers drew confidence or despondency. The memory of a recent triumph or a recent reverse has hundreds of times, conditioned the victory or the defeat of an army, as everybody knows, and all are equally familiar with the effects of the weather, of heat, cold, rain or sunshine, and even of the scenery by which they happen to be surrounded, upon the *morale* of soldiers.

The cause for which they are fighting may have the effect of stimulating the soldier to courage and steadfastness. To mere mercenaries, Dugald Dalgettys "the best of causes is the best of pay," and formerly in Europe soldiers of this class did much of the fighting. Their mode of carrying on warfare is one of the curiosities of history. But their day is over, their occupation is gone. In the great conflict between France and Prussia the combatants both of the staff and the bayonet are, generally speaking, personally or patriotically interested in the result of the war, and in consequence of the advance of popular instruction, especially of the diffusion of intelligence in both the countries involved, the fighters on each side will meet their enemies in battle as Frenchmen and German men never met before. Of course we mean in degree. During the war of 1866, General JOMINI sneered at the assiduity with which the Prussian privates were said to study the field charts which they carried in their knapsacks. The circumstance is significant and is no matter for contempt. In the Prussian host now gathering for battle there will be few soldiers not familiar with the history of Europe, especially of their own portion of Europe, and most of them are capable of fully comprehending the moral and historical relations of the controversy which has culminated in war. Though less intelligent than the Prussians, the soldiers of the South German contingents are very superior mentally and morally to the automatons who formerly followed the banners of their princes, or placed themselves under a foreign banner at their prince's command. These Germans carry their political opinions and prejudices with them into the army. Though combined for the present in defense of German territory, we may not assume that those who sympathize with a dethroned or humiliated King, or who abhor the Prussian military system, or who detest heavy Prussian taxation, have been suddenly transformed. Nor have the Prussians who sympathized with the opposition to BISMARCK forgotten their objections. Should the Pan-German army gain a great victory and humble France, the immediate effect will certainly be to strengthen the sentiment in favor of German unity. On the other hand, if the result of the first engagement should be a German defeat, the many elements of discord in the Teuton army may be expected to manifest themselves very decidedly. The Prussians alone, a majority of them sustained by enthusiastic loyalty to their King, as well as by pride, would, no doubt, display the high qualities by which they have so often and so signally retrieved defeat. Their compact and unwavering movement would also be favored by the fact that all military commands of any importance are held by members of the aristocracy, all of whom are devoted to the policy of centralization. But in the States which might have been neutral in the contest, if they had pleased, a renewal of controversy and divisions of opinion would seem to be the inevitable consequence of a defeat at an early stage of the contest.

Nor are French soldiers the unreasoning beings they used to be. Education has made considerable progress, and intelligence has been promoted among them by the circulation of newspapers. However devoted they may be to the Emperor, alarming evidence was given on the 8th of May that French soldiers have begun to think for themselves, and are liable to the same differences of sentiment by which the non-military classes are divided. Probably a large majority of the French nation and army are really alarmed by the encroachments of Prussia. To prevent their country from being hemmed in and isolated by Italy, Germany and Spain, under the control of a single head; in other words, to prevent the reconstruction of the Empire of CHARLES the Fifth, no doubt seems to the larger part of both a legitimate cause of war. But there is a minority who think differently and who charge the Emperor with having inaugurated the war for selfish or ambitious purposes. Should the war with its terrible inflictions of distress continue long, or should the army early sustain a serious defeat, the results might easily be disastrous to the Napoleon dynasty. This account of the impalpable and inconclusive grounds upon which war has been declared, the enthusiasm of the soldiers and people may easily grow weak under its trials, and in their demoralization they may visit upon the head of the State the calamities of their defeat. Indeed, on each side of the great conflict the opinions and feelings of the rank and file will probably influence the course and termination of the war in a degree seldom if ever seen before.

OUR PECKSNIFF.

Some days ago Hon. JAMES L. GRAHAM called on us to ask that a vindication of his public conduct as a Senator from this county from assaults which, as he alleges, were made on it by us in the COMMERCIAL of last week, be printed in our columns. We said to him that we would print whatever he might write and sign. We did not think Mr. GRAHAM would put into his communication anything personally insulting to the editor of this paper, expecting him to meet the charges we had made, and being willing to give his defense to the public.

Mr. GRAHAM insolently assumes that another person had prepared our editorial articles, and controlled our columns. On this subject a word to that gentleman: The Editor of this paper directs his responsibility with no one. The articles in question contained our views, pretty clearly expressed, without any special pleading in reference to certain portions of the public conduct of that gentleman. We are responsible for what we said, and will answer to Mr. GRAHAM. If he wishes the truth developed, he need go no further in quest of responsibility. The particulars charged in the articles in question have been related to us by many individuals, at different times, some of whom were Mr. GRAHAM's constituents and some were not. He cannot be ignorant that his political (not to say personal) conduct has been extensively canvassed by his own constituents, and now that he is a candidate for Congress, a more rigid scrutiny is being carried on. His communication shows that he is sensible of it, and he is particularly solicitous to make it appear that he is not the devoted friend and follower of CAMERON, which he is generally imagined to be, although it is well known that CAMERON runs him as an Irishman runs a wheelbarrow. While he is on the subject, let him explain his sudden conversion to Cameronism in January, 1867, the fulsome adulation with which he portrayed the great qualities and exalted virtues of that eminent chieftain; the sycophantic, obsequious spirit with which he now pledged past errors and pledged future support, in his Harrisburg speech after CAMERON's election in that year. Let him tell from what source he drew the wisdom and virtue which made him wiser and better than his constituents, who, on his own showing, almost unanimously desired him to support another man.

Mr. GRAHAM has assumed the character of a political PECKSNIFF, and candor requires us to say that he fills the *role* to perfection. The character has its value for a time, but it does not wear well. It would be impeaching the intelligence of the people to suppose that this PECKSNIFF has not become quite well known. The character, although an anomaly, is perfectly well defined. It advertises itself, pronounces its own praise, exalts its own virtues, and puts on sanctimonious airs at will.

"If ever Mr. PECKSNIFF wore an apostolic look," says Mr. DICKENS, "he had it on this remarkable day. If ever his unruffled smile proclaimed the words 'I am a messenger of peace,' that was its mission now. If ever man combined within himself the mild qualities of the lamb with a considerable touch of the dove, and not a dash of the crocodile, or the least possible suggestion of the very mildest seasoning of the serpent, that man was he."

This much for our PECKSNIFF for to-day. As he is in search for office he may understand that we intend from time to time to bear him company.

WHY THE DELAY?

Speculating on the war which the world is waiting to see begin, is in fashion. Although the first shot has not yet been fired, the whole thing has been fought out in a dozen different ways, on paper. Indeed, it is truly wonderful how much is known of the way the thing will come out, as well as what must be the intermediate steps, the ups and downs, involvements and outcomes at every stage of the struggle. On the other hand, because a great battle has not been fought, some conclude that the war cloud will blow over, and that trade and finance will speedily resume their old level, greatly to the relief of Mr. BOUTWELL, who wants to go to "funding." There is little sense in this. Prussia is on the defensive at present, and France is moving up for the onset three hundred and fifty thousand men, which cannot be done in a day, or a week, it may be not in several of them. And then comes a report that the Emperor is ill and may not leave for the "front" for some time. Herein, possibly, may be more than at first seems. The Emperor sick, when the Emperor is everything, is a grave complication. It might not be so important were he not an Emperor whose illness means—or may mean—a great deal. The Emperor dead, would change the face of everything, and so when we are told that he is sick, knowing what we do about his physical condition, his age, disorders, to what he is liable, and what apprehensions exist concerning him, it is a little item of news, which, though we may soon be told that the Emperor is again well, that enters largely into the account when one comes to reckon the possibilities of the vast war seemingly about to open. It is the favorite idea of some that after all France means not to fight. After what she has said and done in the last three weeks, France must fight. She must win, too,—win largely—or the Emperor will return from the war humbled, weakened and with new dangers to meet from a mortified and dissatisfied nation. A victory by the French army over the Prussian army, however decisive, will not suffice. The Emperor must bring back concessions from an humble foe—free territory with the kinks taken out of the Rhine-line. Less than this he cannot stand. As much as this presupposes not a war of a single battle; but a desperate war of considerable duration, from which it will be fortunate if a single European nation escape. It is next to impossible that the shock should not come. There is no one to mediate. No terms could be named that would satisfy or could be granted. While the great NAPOLEON would probably have struck Prussia while yet she was unprepared, it is evident that the present Emperor is "terrible in earnest," with nothing possible for him but to push on to whatever fate.

COME TO THE POINT!

In view of the jobbery which has been exposed and is known to exist, growing out of the possession of power by the Rings, it is easy to comprehend, when the leaders cry out, "Stand by the party," "stick to regular nominations," etc., precisely what is meant. We have been "regular" for a long time, until the entire public service, so far as the Rings have control, has nearly become a regular swindle. Some of these swindling transactions have been exposed, and others will be; many others are so covered up that, although fully believed to exist, exposure is difficult. A change is absolutely needed—such a change as the Reform movement intends to work out. It will be observed that neither the "organ" nor any leader has had the hardihood to deny that corruption, extravagance and incompetency exist to a frightful extent. By their silence they fully admit their existence and the necessity for reform. Their only reply is, "stand by the party," "keep regular," which means stand by them, and keep right on as we are. Their promises are ample enough it is true; but can they be taken? Can men reconcile such a course with reason and conscience? Do they in their own affairs continue to trust unfaithful servants, or "hire them over again," when caught in rascalities? Has not the time come when the people will exact from their servants at least a share of the honesty, faithfulness and competency which they insist on in their private affairs? Do not the numberless abuses, the amazing expensiveness and in many respects terrible things in the public service arise mainly from the fact that this rule has not been obeyed? This must be admitted. And now that it is proposed to apply this rule, now that a ticket is presented in strict conformity with it—as must be, and is universally admitted—what are the people, in whose interest this has been done, going to do? "Stand by the party!" cry the leaders. In what way can Republicans stand by their party so successfully as by standing by the best ticket ever presented for their support,—all true, undoubted Republicans, as well as men of integrity and capacity. "Keep regular!" still cry the ringleaders. Is it irregular, then, to reform confessed abuses that have become unbearable? To be "regular" must we continue to submit to them? Is it in this manner that the Republican party is to be sustained, its principles carried out? According to the tactics of the leaders, it seems. But shall they have their way, even with all their promises ten times made? With arms thrust to the shoulder into the public treasury, caught like burglars with the tools of their trade, the evidences of their guilt on them, they have the hardihood to proclaim that the Republican ticket shall not be supported, that another must be set up, which the party must support—which is simply proclaiming that the leaders must have a new license to practice on the patience, pockets and interests of the people. What say the Republicans of old Allegheny? Shall they have it?

GENERAL TROCHU.

The *Army and Navy Journal* says:

AT VAL MONTOIS we have known readers out of Prussia anterior to the splendid campaign which ended at Sadowa, the man to whose brain will be due whatever of success shall attend the efforts of the French armies in the coming war is as yet unsettled. General TROCHU is the author of a work entitled "L'Armée Française en 1867," which has been pronounced by the best judges of France. He is now fifty-five years of age. A graduate of the military school of St. Cyr, he was made Lieutenant in 1840, and promoted to a Captaincy in 1841. His first service was in the Algerian campaigns. At the age of thirty-three he was one of the youngest officers of his rank in the French army, and by reference to KING LOUIS PHILIPPE'S Army List we find his name associated with Lord RAGLAN, rather than as "Aroand General Canrobert," as reported. He was also attached through the campaign, having been mentioned with honorable distinction in the dispatches of Marshal ST. ARNAUD. He was soon promoted to the position of an effective staff officer of the commanding corps, and as officer analogous to that of Quartermaster in the English service, and probably in the American, he was charged with the duty of reconnoitering the ground in front of the army, and with the preparation of a plan to reorganize the army. However, as has been suggested, in taking the Imperial staff corps as the basis of organization, he left out the Emperor. His essay upon organization, "*L'Armée Française*," was published in 1867, and in it he proposed to make the French army so powerful that it would be impossible for Europe to have anticipated the event of a war with Prussia. Unfortunately, cannot be obtained in this country, but we have seen extracts from it in the French journals, in which he declares that the Rhine is a natural frontier, and probably in order to make the natural boundary as good as possible, he would have the war carried on first behind a certain line, and afterward, if necessary, behind a second line. The latter is manifestly the best, as it would bring the Emperor's base of operations nearer to the army. TROCHU'S name may chance to appear at the head of the French armies.

Such a statement as the one quoted above is well adapted to excite both curiosity and interest concerning its subject. The high character ascribed to General TROCHU by the *Army and Navy Journal* seems to rest upon solid grounds, as even General CLUSERET, a few days ago, in a communication to a New York newspaper, referred to him as "probably the best officer of the staff in France." It was added, however, that as an avowed Orleanist he was not likely to receive any important command from the Emperor. No doubt this opinion of General CLUSERET is corrected by the *Journal* when it affirms that General TROCHU enjoys the Imperial confidence in the most flattering degree.

In the book just referred to on "*L'Armée Francaise*," which appeared in 1867, and ran through ten editions, there is a chapter entitled *Le Combat*, or The Battle, which is full of interest just now in view of the actual war, and of the probability that the writer may hold a high command in the army which he has studied with so much care and success. It was said that in hearing the Duke of WELLINGTON talk about a great battle in which he had commanded, one learned as much about the Duke's moral traits as about the military details which he described. With equal truth we may say that General TROCHU'S chapter on battle throws a very clear light upon his own character. In particular, it is a revelation of his fine humane sympathies and of his lively appreciation of the moral aspects of war.

It is General TROCHU'S opinion that no commanding officer, though he may have been in a hundred battles, can feel absolutely sure that, on a given day, amidst the disturbing circumstances of an engagement, he will have full and entire command of his directing faculties; that he will be equal to himself and above the influence of the agitating impressions of the scene. Hence he concludes that of all the qualities of a soldier the one which most strongly attests the solidity of his character and the reality of his worth is *modesty*."

The mere material horrors of a battle have seldom been arrayed in more impressive detail than in this chapter by General TROCHU. Having in the simplest terms portrayed the awful scene, he appeals to the "men of government and command who have been witnesses of what cannot be described," with the question whether they supposed, *at that moment*, that the glory acquired by some and the rewards acquired by others, suffice to sustain the hearts subjected to such trials? To the question he replies himself: "No they need a more noble incentive. They need the high sentiment of duty and sacrifice. Only thus supported they voluntarily march with firmness and dignity to death. And among them those only enjoy serenity who believe in another life."

One trait of battle particularly dwelt upon by General TROCHU reminds us of what we used so often to hear during our civil war concerning the conduct of our volunteers; the excessive promptitude with which more soldiers than are required for the service crowd around wounded officers and bear them to the rear. Thus it appears that even the thoroughly drilled army of France is not exempt from an evil by which our volunteer forces were affected. The General says that, unless before battle the troops have been most carefully warned against the practice and penetrated with the idea that "the most certain way to serve the wounded is to beat the enemy, seeing that in case of defeat they are horribly sacrificed," a great number of soldiers will surround and carry off every one wounded, in spite of the severest regulation prohibiting the practice. Thus the effective force of the army is disastrously diminished.

Perhaps the most entertaining portion of the chapter consists of certain "observations collected with much industry and care," and which are characterized by the author as an "interesting study in military psychology."

In an army about to be engaged in active service, it seems that many men, influenced by lively professional vanity, delib erately and of set purpose assume peculiar manners, physiognomy and style of speech. The General has noticed that this entire bundle of affectations instantaneously drops off, that these artificial assumptions are irresistibly effaced under the peril of battle and are replaced by the real manners, carriage and voice prompted by the natural instincts or character of each individual. Some, ordinarily loquacious on the subject of war and glowing in speech, fall into a gloomy silence in anticipation of battle. Blusterers who in the time of peace were always ready with their swords and who had established a theoretical reputation for valor, become deeply anxious and troubled; some of them utterly unable to conceal their emotion and measure its effects, shamefully disappear during the action. Others seized by a painful agitation, control it by force of character, though they see nothing, understand nothing, are utterly unable to collect their thoughts, and are equally incapable of directing others and of being directed themselves. Others, again, men of a cool and gentle temper, often deemed timid in garrison, exhibit impetuous courage and set the best example. Giddy, thoughtless men, whose heads are supposed to be ill-balanced, often manifest calmness and solidity of judgment and a surprising aptitude for command. In fact, a battle is an infallible criterion, a touchstone which, without their knowledge and in spite of them, gives the measure of the professional value and special aptitudes of soldiers.

Though in this statement of some of General TROCHU'S thoughts and observations on the subject of war the reader may have met with nothing new, yet enough has been reported to awaken some interest in, perhaps to cast a little light on the character of a man who may soon become the subject of general conversation.

THE WAY THE COURT HOUSE RING DO IT—AGAIN.

When men perpetrate a wrong, especially if it be in an official capacity, the insane idea of going ahead instead of retracing their steps, generally seizes them. The latest illustration of this is seen in the course of the gentlemen who, as a majority of the Board, awarded the Court House job, which, Mr. LUCAS, as Chairman, so earnestly defends. This gentleman is unfortunate in the character of the defense he makes. It had been better had he said nothing. He goes into a rather confused explanation, wherein waste leaves, blank pages, etc., are conspicuous, to disprove that there will be anything like "thirty" books, and to convey the idea that the job is all to be on a small scale. Now we have examined this defense or explanation, and find that, taking his own data and making all the allowance Mr. LUCAS claims for blanks and waste pages, *his defense amounts to an admission that the job will exceed twenty books!* If, with a wish to make it as small as possible, the number of books cannot be brought to less than twenty, what, we ask, is likely to be the number in the end? The public know full well—and no one knows better than Mr. LUCAS—that jobs of this character uniformly overrun the estimates. They never fall below. And here we venture the assertion, that unless something is done to cut the job down, the number of books will be nearer to thirty than twenty. If only twenty books were to be required, why did the Board, which Mr. LUCAS chairman, *invite proposals "for making between forty and fifty blank books" for this service?* Was it not believed, at the time the proposals were invited, that at least forty books would be needed? Did the Commissioners know the actual number required, or was it mere guess work on their part? If they knew, why contract for more than double the number wanted? If they only guessed at the number, have they discharged their duty with fidelity to the county? Do men manage their private business in this way, when making contracts for work? One of two things must be admitted; either that forty or more books are actually needed, or that the Commissioners advertised "for forty or fifty" when they required only twenty.

If it be said that by getting "forty or fifty" the twenty would be proportionately cheaper, the explanation only makes the matter worse, since by buying twice as many as can be used, the balance remaining as so much lumber, the cost of the whole falls on the twenty. The saving is only in appearance, while the unnecessary expense is actual. The books cost $16 apiece. Mr. LUCAS contends that but twenty will be required—$320. Now to get twenty books at $320, "forty or fifty" are contracted for at a cost of $800 or $1,060! It is undoubtedly true that "forty or fifty" books could be contracted for at a rate cheaper per book than twenty; but do men in their senses spend fifty cents that they may save ten? Either this was the principal the Commissioners went upon, or they were right in advertising for "forty or fifty" books, knowing that something like that number would be needed. We again repeat, it is a bad job, but it is the way the Court House Ring do it!

AN UNPOPULAR VIEW.

Many affirm that in the contest between France and Prussia the right is so clearly on the side of the latter that to withhold our sympathy is a sin. The truth we suppose to be that few of us are qualified to form an approximatively just estimate of the merits of the controversy. We have never been much concerned about the balance of power in Europe. Comparatively few of us know much about the frequent and sanguinary wars to which it has given rise through a long course of centuries. As a practical question, it has no more interest for us than the disputes of the Heptarchy or the jangle between Lilliput and Blefuscu. But to the people of France it is a vital question, in which independence and subjugation are involved. If we suppose that the Confederates of the South had succeeded in establishing themselves as a slave republic, and then reflect how we should regard their annexation of Mexico and Canada, we may perhaps form some notion of the feelings with which Frenchmen contemplate the possibility of Spain coming under the influence of the Hohenzollerns.

Another element in the European imbroglio which it is difficult for us to understand, is the principle of loyalty—or devotion to a King and his dynasty. Equally unintelligible to us is the mercurial, live or reciprocal feeling in the royal person who receives the homage of his subjects. All the royal house of Prussia who believe in God at all, believe in the divine right of their dynnasty to rule. These principles, mere figments, antequated illusions to us, are involved as great practical realities in the European war. For years Count BISMARCK has been toiling in intrigue for the aggrandizement of the house whose dignity is, in part, his own. The other reigning families of Germany were frightened and horrified by the encroachments upon their rights, and in these feelings their subjects very generally sympathized until the glory and prestige of German unity, the power in Europe possible to the German States if combined, were made manifest in the war of 1866. All Teutons were dazzled by the prospect of a Pan-German Union under a single head, which could stand up against Europe combined. The German who did not exult in the anticipation when he recalled the degradation of the past, must have been very destitute of either pride or ambition. And yet it is certain that since shortly after the battle of Sadowa, discontent with the Prussian system has been growing rapidly not only in the States absorbed, but in Prussia proper. In the neighboring countries the increased power of Prussia has been regarded with increasing anxiety. In the actual war we hear that Holland is neutral. But even within the last month the King has formed a new Cabinet, in which the first place is held by Mr. THORBECKE, one of the ablest statesmen in Holland and notoriously anti-Prussian. In Germany the declaration of war by France, by silencing the growing discontent and by combining all Germans in defense of their soil against a hated enemy, is so manifestly a boon to BISMARCK, it is so clearly in the interest of his unification policy that one can hardly help believing that it is, in part at least, the result of his direct endeavor. The remembrance of French domination in Germany is peculiarly bitter, and nothing was so certain to make Germans forget their differences and combine for a single purpose as the prospect of its renewal. In recurring with resentment to the invasions of NAPOLEON, the Germans are apt to forget that if the French entered their territory as enemies, it was in retaliation for the invasion of French territory by Germans. In fact, the Princes with their wretched dynasties were at the root of the evil, and in delivering Germany from the venerable system by which those royal people adjusted matters for their own convenience, the French nation performed a very important part—and thus rendered a service to Germany.

As Americans we are not called upon to admire or patronize LOUIS NAPOLEON. He is certainly much to blame in the matter of the present war, and the people of France are doomed to suffer for his intrigues, as the people of Germany will suffer for those of the celebrated Count. We, therefore, cannot but think that while sympathizing with each nation in its calamity, an attitude of strict impartiality towards both best becomes the American people. For one thing we are sure, that

"War is a game, which, were their subjects wise, Kings would not play at."

PENN AVENUE IMPROVEMENT.

Work has not yet been commenced on Penn avenue, and there is a good deal of impatience, not to say grumbling, on the part of those residing along the of the proposed "improvement." The Commission have taken but one practical step towards commencing operations. They have decided to adopt the *wooden* pavement, but have not yet agreed as to the kind—whether NICOLSON, WYCKOFF, or some other style. As the season is growing shorter with every passing week and month, the people are beginning to exhibit no little uneasiness, fearing that they are to be doomed to struggle through mud, and contend with ruts and chuck-holes for another winter. The Commission, a few days ago, assured the public that at least one mile and a quarter of the pavement would be laid this season, and we have no reason to doubt it. The bonds are now in the hands of the City Controller, ready for the signatures, and we are told that there are bankers ready to place them as soon as they are put upon the market. The only thing in the way, therefore, is the fact that the Commission have not yet made up their minds as to which kind of wooden pavement is the best. Upon this point they have doubtless experienced no little difficulty, since all kinds of wooden pavements are of comparatively recent invention, and have not been thoroughly tested. The difficulties in arriving at a proper conclusion, especially concerning the merits of the NICOLSON, have been very much increased in consequence of the indifferent manner in which it has been laid on Fifth avenue, since first introduced. While it may not wear as long as claimed for it, it has been demonstrated that in several of our west-rn cities it was most wretchedly laid, owing to the corrupt jobbery and swindling which have been practiced. The WYCKOFF is a newer style of pavement, and must there fore be examined with corresponding care, although it presents many seemingly meritorious features, the most important of which is its cheapness, as compared with the NICOLSON. Then there are several other styles, more or less meritorious, all of which the Commission will feel obliged to examine and pass upon. Their duty is, therefore, a delicate and responsible one, and they must have time for deliberation. There is another difficulty in the way, namely: the want of water pipes. The Water Commission are loth to contract for any style of wooden pavement, until they have the assurances of the Water Committee of Councils that the pipes will be laid in advance of the pavement. Any kind of wooden pavement, and especially the NICOLSON, would be very much deteriorated by having it taken up for the purpose of extending the water mains. The Water Committee should give this matter their earnest attention, and make some definite arrangement with the Commission in regard to it, more especially since the recent disastrous fires in East Liberty have shown how essentially necessary it is to have that populous district supplied with water.

The paving of our main thoroughfares, into the new districts, will tend, more than anything else, to build up our city, increase the prices of real estate, and swell our population; and the plan embodied in the act providing for the improvements of Penn and other avenues is so simple and easy of application that every progressive citizen desires to see it favorably inaugurated. The Penn Avenue Commission feel the importance of starting right, as failure in this initial enterprise would greatly retard those which are to follow. Under these circumstances, patience must be exercised by the people. When the style of pavement is determined upon, however, and the water question settled satisfactorily, the Commissioners will be expected to let the work in sections, and push it as rapidly as possible, as they will have the means to pay, and in that case can get as many men as they want. They should at least be able to complete the pavement to East Liberty, if not through and beyond that point, before the winter sets in. The property owners along Liberty avenue hope to have it opened and paved next season, under the same law, and they feel that the completion of Penn avenue this season would very materially help them in their enterprise. Thus one good thoroughfare will naturally lead to the making of others. Property lying unoccupied on either side of these main avenues will be reached by intersecting streets, and in a few years the new districts will show an activity in building unprecedented in the history of the city.

"WHETHER TROJAN OR TYRIAN."

Seldom has more vehement or pervading enthusiasm been manifested anywhere than that by which the German citizens of the United States are animated in behalf of their countrymen in the old home. Of this prevalent feeling the proceedings of the meeting recorded at length in our issue of yesterday were only a fair illustration. In one respect these proceedings were worthy of especial note, as showing a more intelligent, or at least, as it seems to us, a more judicious appreciation of the European situation than has been apparent in the speeches and resolutions of other some meetings held for the same general object. In more ways than one it was made evident that the sympathies of the Germans of Pittsburgh do not flow out in loyalty towards the Royal House of Prussia in its time of trial. Whatever may be the origin of the war, the people of Germany are called upon by the noblest motives to resist the invasion of their soil, and in behalf of independence to make great sacrifices. Under these circumstances it is natural and right that their friends and kindred in this country should yield them their sympathy. Nor is it amiss if they please to contribute of their means to secure the care and comfort of the sick and wounded victims of the war. To these objects the zeal of our Pittsburgh meeting was restricted, and the reserve is surely worthy of commendation.

American citizens are not at liberty to forget the obligations which rest upon a neutral nation. We are neither expected nor required to control our wishes, and can hardly fail to desire the success of one or the other of the parties to the great conflict. As individuals, we may freely declare our preference. But to assemble in mass meetings and pass resolutions denunciatory of either belligerent; thus formally to take sides and give the weight of our moral influence to either of the combatants; such partizanship is a clear violation of the courtesy which one nation owes to another. One object of neutrality laws is the prohibition of such proceedings. But even if no laws of the sort were in force, they are forbidden by the principles of humanity. Every one who remembers the time of our recent war and the hopes and anxieties by which we were agitated, can recollect how deeply we were touched by the individual expression of foreign sympathy, and how still more afflicting was the report that great multitudes of the poorer classes in England were longing for the triumph of our cause. The hands of our soldiers were invigorated, the steadfastness of all was confirmed by the knowledge that so many whom we had never seen or expected to see were praying for the victory of our arms. Hence sympathy is aid; and when it is loudly and decidedly expressed, it is essential participation in the warfare going on.

In New York, St. Louis, and some other places we could name, the Germans have evidently forgotten their position and duties as the citizens of a country at peace with France as well as Germany. And we cannot but congratulate the participants in the Pittsburgh meeting on the superior taste and sense of their proceedings.

TRIUMPH OF THE REFORM MOVEMENT.

The gratifying progress of the Reform movement is fully conceded by its enemies. It was started to break down the Rings, expel from the conventions professional office brokers, and to transfer the affairs of the county and the management of the party to men who would have some regard for honesty and decency. This was and is the mission of the movement. It has no other object to serve, and this has been openly proclaimed. With what degree of favor the party welcomes the movement may be inferred from the following proclamation by the junior organ of the Ring—the Pittsburgh *Dispatch*:

"THE NOMINATIONS.

"We think we hazard nothing in stating that it the wishes of the party be respected in the coming conventions, and if we are satisfied they will, a better and stronger ticket will be nominated than has been placed before the people here for years. *It is the intention, we believe, to force, by means of the cards, or in other words, those old office holders and political bummers, whose faces have been familiar in every convention for the last twenty years, will have to take a back seat and make way for new men.* The intelligent people expect, and we can say we think the people will not be disappointed. No old office-holder should be nominated for any office whatever, for if nominated he could not, in the present state of the public mind, be elected, and the Conventions will not certainly take to any such man whose candidacy means defeat. In short the conventions will do well to go outside of active office-seekers and politicians all-together for a ticket. There is plenty of choice material to select from from which to select, without taking up either one or the other, and it would be a fatal mistake were the conventions not to avail themselves of it in making up their ticket."

What, but the reform movement, produced this sudden awaking to the needs of reform, the demands of the people, and prerequisites to the slightest prospect before the people? The admission which the Ring here makes of the power of the Reform movement is as broad as it is significant. To have the least possible chance of succeeding, it is here openly proclaimed the August Convention must come squarely upon the ground occupied by the Reformers. It is not a month since the Reform movement was commenced; but it has already achieved a great triumph—virtually demolished the Rings and placed the people in the ascendant. When the leaders are forced to make such confessions, the friends of Reform certainly have great reason to rejoice.

It is not too much to say, that the act of the Commissioners awarding to WILLIAMS the Indexing Job at the Court House, is regarded by fair-minded men as wholly indefensible. Under any circumstances this would be the verdict, but when we consider that the job, in almost precisely the same shape, when it was before Judges WILLIAMS and HAMPTON, nearly two years ago, was regarded by them so decidedly fishy that they could not affirm the contract, and that it has been consummated only by smuggling through the Legislature a special enactment—a fair sample of the special legislation whereby Rings generally live—that it is only a majority of the Commissioners that give it their assent, and that, too, against the earnest protest of at least one of the Board; when we consider who WILLIAMS is, and that it was by him that the special law was engineered through the Legislature in an unusual form, the proceeding becomes at once extraordinary. We are far from charging the gentlemen, or any one of them, awarding the contract with corruption. But they have done what they have done, and what they have done is precisely what it is, and we are bound to speak of it and the public will think and speak of it just as it is. This is rendered all the more necessary because of the peculiar character of the times, and the alarming nature of much that is transpiring all around us, specially trying to the pockets of taxpayers and the moral sensibilities of the thoughtful portion of community. If they were called to pass on a single act of wastefulness or corruption; if there were not a thousand instances of the kind, and if the patience as well as the pockets of the people had not become well-nigh exhausted; if there were not an army on every hand doing nothing but inventing ways to get a living by filching from the public treasury; if getting into office, procuring appointments, hugger-mugging jobs, in the expectation of getting more money than the law allows—if these and a thousand other things of a kindred character did not exist to fill thoughtful people with alarm, it might be that this single job would be suffered to pass with a protest and a frown. But in view of what is seen on every hand, and now that the work of reform has been commenced, such mild treatment will not answer. There must be a remedy, and there never can be a remedy without previous knowledge of the true character of the disease. Probing must be done to know where to lay open and cut; and this usually is disagreeable to the patient. In other words, jobbery must be exposed and stopped; and all the more necessary does this become when it dresses itself in the garb of respectability, or seduces honorable men into giving it countenance and effect.

In General TROCHU'S observations on the subject of courage in battle, referred to elsewhere, we find no mention of a combination of qualities which we believe is not uncommon. Sir CHARLES NAPIER, the hero of Scinde, in his autobiography or letters, we forget which, confesses concerning himself that, though morally brave beyond most men, he was physically a coward. In the early days of his military service, while battle raged around him, a still more vehement contest went on within between the nervous impulse to run away and the stern principle which kept him at his post. The conflict, however, never disturbed his self-possession, and he was able to take as careful note of everything that happened as if his physical system had not been agitated by nervous tremors. Sir CHARLES, in illustration of his own character in this respect, refers to the celebrated French Marshal, TURENNE, as an instance of a similar conjunction of courage and cowardice. Though every nerve quivered under fire, the Marshal was able, without interruption or inconvenience, to watch the progress of the battle and to take advantage of any slips his enemy might make. He was once heard to apostrophize his trembling legs: "O, ye timid members, if you knew whither I am going to take ye presently, ye would shake worse!" It was a signal triumph of mind over matter.

The Democratic papers are ridiculing SHERIDAN'S going to Europe to see how war is waged there. Those fellows never did like Little PHIL'S manner of making war, and always considered it very "unscientific" in him to ride down the Shenandoah Valley, slaying and capturing JUBAL EARLY'S armed men, and devastating the regions so that rebels could no longer find a comfortable living there while battling against the Union. 'Pon honor it is too bad that Gen. GRANT should give the delicate duty of learning how to make war to a success